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1997 UPDATE

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COVERUP OF THE YEAR:

UFO'S KNOCK OUT POWER IN WESTERN STATES!

PANIC IN THE LATIN WORLD:

CHUPACABRAS, ARE THEY...HALF HUMAN?

H OR ALL Alien?

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Contributing Editors

GENE STEINBERG
CROSS-COUNTRY COMM.
Typography

CHARLES GOODMAN
Founder

Cover by:
CHARLES GREGORY

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Welcome to our Universe

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR TIMOTHY GREEN BECKLEY

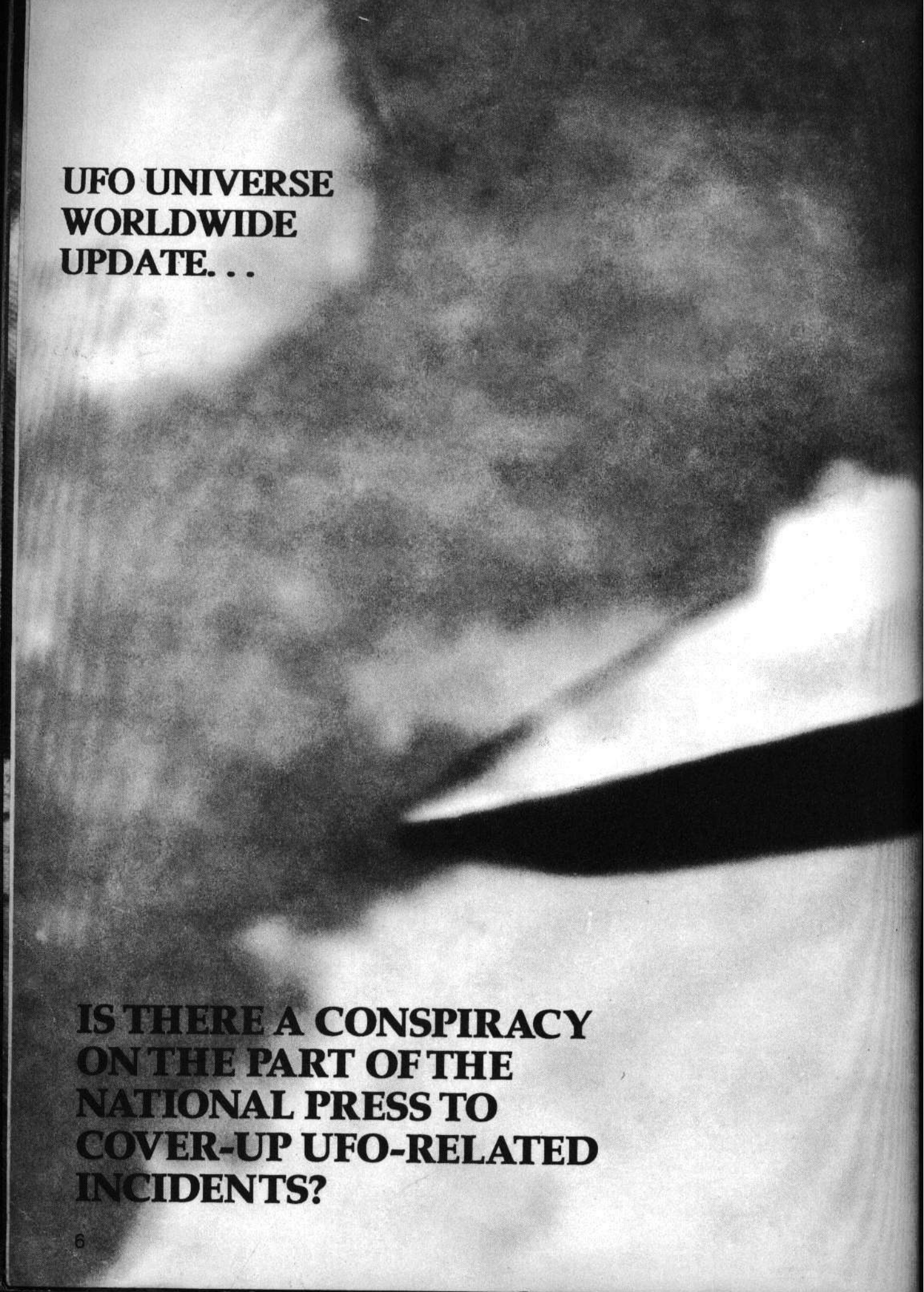
Skeptics aside, UFOs are more real and of potential importance today than they were when a civilian pilot named Kenneth Arnold happened to glance out of his cockpit as he flew between the cloud covered peaks of Mt. Rainier in Washington state. Laughed at for years, a growing number number of scientists as well as civilians are now looking to the sky for answers to many perplexing puzzles that have become part of the greatest mystery of our—if not of all— time.

- What of the thousands of reports from all over the world—how is it possible to sift the wheat from the chaff concerning the reliability of witnesses?
- Are the multitude of abductions to be taken at face value; or is there another explanation for what these individuals claim to have experienced?
- What—if any—part does the military play in what some have defined as a Cosmic Watergate? Is there a global conspiracy to hide the truth from the people of Earth, or are the governments of the world just as dazed and confused as the rest of us?
- What of the existence of what has been called the Secret Government or New World Order? Are UFOs just part of some grand deception, a form of mind control being utilized to guide the public down some unseen trail?

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first modern day UFO sighting in 1947 as well as the crash of a UFO outside of the town of Roswell in New Mexico. The weight of the evidence indicates that something mighty peculiar has been going on all these years for which no one can offer a suitable explanation. Indeed, there seems to be no one explanation that holds water completely. It may turn out that UFOs are more than one thing. We may well, indeed be dealing with some form of interplanetary or interdimensional traveler, or at least some of the reported observations might be explained in other terms that we cannot even readily define with our limited 20th Century science.

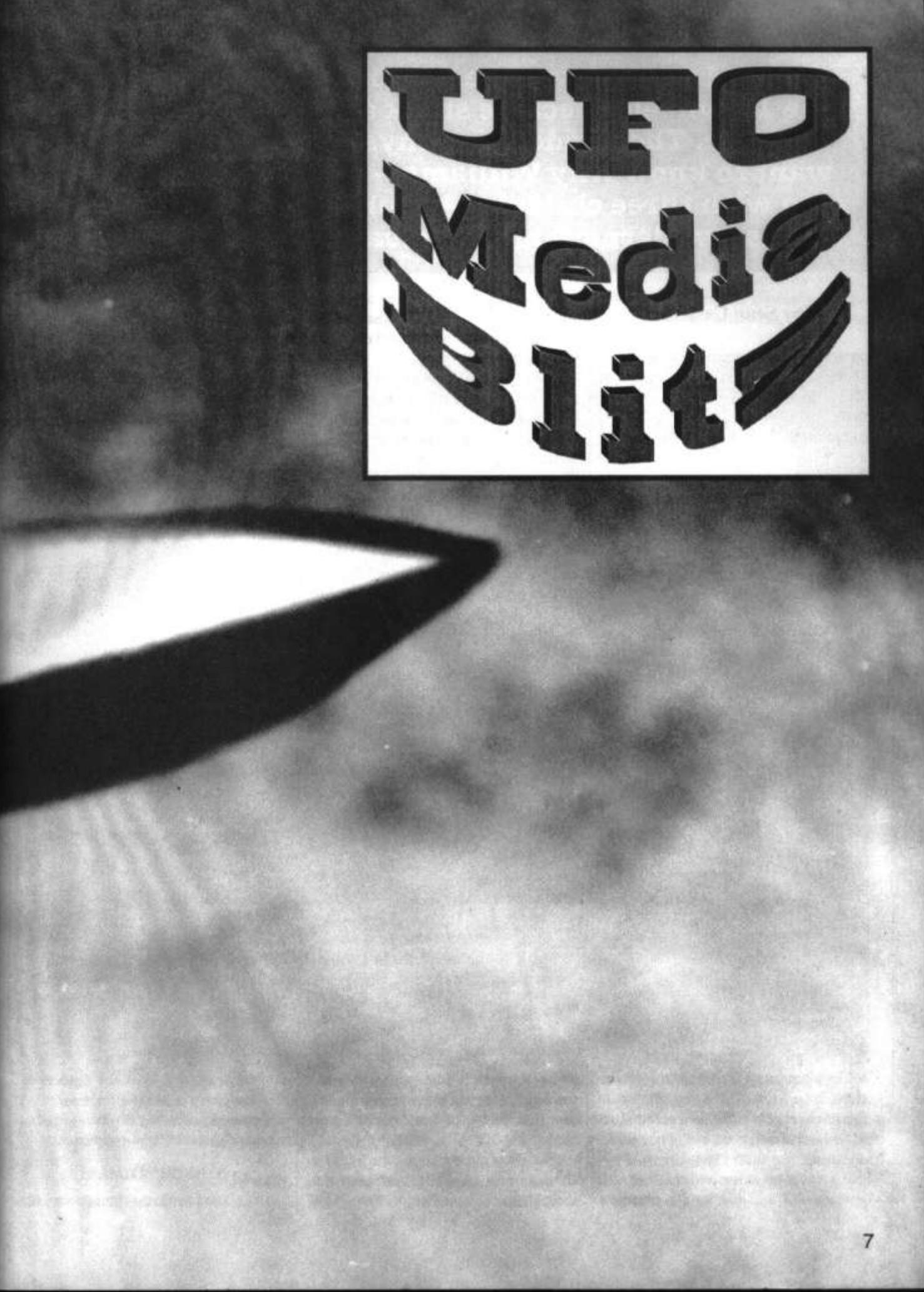
UFO Universe is the oldest existing newsstand publication devoted to the subject...and the only magazine to present all points of view without condemnation or approval. Ultimately, it is up to the reader to decide the truth. You have been able to do so since we started publishing in 1988, and we see no reason why it should be any different today as we approach the millennium. Keep looking up and keep reporting your sightings and experience to the one place—*UFO Universe.*

Fearless editor Tim Beckley tunes into the cosmos for answers to the greatest mystery of our age—the existence of UFOs and the possibility of interplanetary travelers to our Earthly shores.



UFO UNIVERSE WORLDWIDE UPDATE. . .

IS THERE A CONSPIRACY ON THE PART OF THE NATIONAL PRESS TO COVER-UP UFO-RELATED INCIDENTS?


UFO
Media
Blitz

Several miles down the narrow, winding dirt road, the 18-wheeler became stuck and Williams left the vehicle. The incident is a mystery to many. They want to know why Williams—a respected, married man with three children—would drive his truck into a dense wilderness area and vanish without a trace.

by Sean Casteel

In any given year there are always numerous incidents of UFO activity of one kind or another that are reported in the mainstream media. While the so-called "straight press" usually takes a moderately skeptical attitude, there remains a tendency for UFOs to be considered "newsworthy" more often than one might expect given the continual accusation that believers in the phenomenon never get tired of making: namely that a cover-up exists and that both the government and the media routinely sweep real UFO-related events under the rug as a matter of standard operating procedure.

It is not the purpose of this article to deny that any such cover-up exists. Rather what follows is a summary of events that were reported in conventional newspapers around the country—and around the world—and which saw the light of day in spite of any sinister plot that may exist to deny people the truth.

The events recounted here begin in the summer of 1995 and continue through to the summer of 1996. They run the gamut from sightings of anomalous lights in the sky to abductions by UFO occupants to controversial skirmishes with the academics of Harvard University. The strangeness of what the many witnesses and experts have to say in print when speaking on the record to mainstream newspaper reporters will probably surprise even the readers of this magazine, no matter how well versed you are in the bizarre tales that accompany the UFO phenomenon.

Missing Trucker

Let's start with this one, from the

June 23, 1995 edition of *The Roundup*, a newspaper in Payson, Arizona. The reporter's name is Max Foster. The headline reads: "Missing Trucker Attracts UFO Group."

"The mysterious disappearance of a Kansas truck driver almost one month ago near Payson has family members grieving, law enforcement authorities scratching their heads and a UFO organization claiming aliens might have been responsible.

"On the morning of Sunday, May 28, Devin Williams, 28, a long-distance driver for Flint Hills Transportation in Emporia, Kan., drove his refrigerated truck loaded with salad mix and strawberries off Interstate 40 onto the Beeline Highway.

"About 50 miles later he turned onto a remote Forest Service road, FR95, and drove into the Buck Springs area.

"Several miles down the narrow, winding dirt road, the 18-wheeler became stuck and Williams left the vehicle.

The incident is a mystery to many. They want to know why Williams—a respected, married man with three children—would drive his truck into a dense wilderness area and vanish without a trace.

After some comments from people who knew Williams and who testified to his good character and expressed complete bafflement at his disappearance, the article moves on to discuss the interest shown in the case by MUFON (The Mutual UFO Network).

"Tucson Insurance agent Charlie Green, a long-time member of MUFON, said the case has him fascinated because of what Williams told the campers who first confronted him.

"'The driver said, "I didn't do it, THEY did it,"' said Green. 'That kind of makes you wonder who "THEY" is, doesn't it?'"

The article goes on to say that Tom Wilson, the owner of the trucking company that employed the missing driver, was also contacted by a woman who identified herself as a "UFO scientist" who wanted more details about Williams' disappearance as well as by another UFO organization whose name he could not recall.

"'They asked me about Devin and then told me about a man out in Arizona who was abducted into a spaceship and later got away. They made a movie about it,'" Wilson said.

"The movie the caller was apparently referring to was *Fire In The Sky*, a drama that depicted the alleged abduction of Snowflake logger Travis Walton by aliens."

The article concludes by saying: "While the questions are many and the clues are few, detectives, family and friends will continue looking for answers to Williams' disappearance."

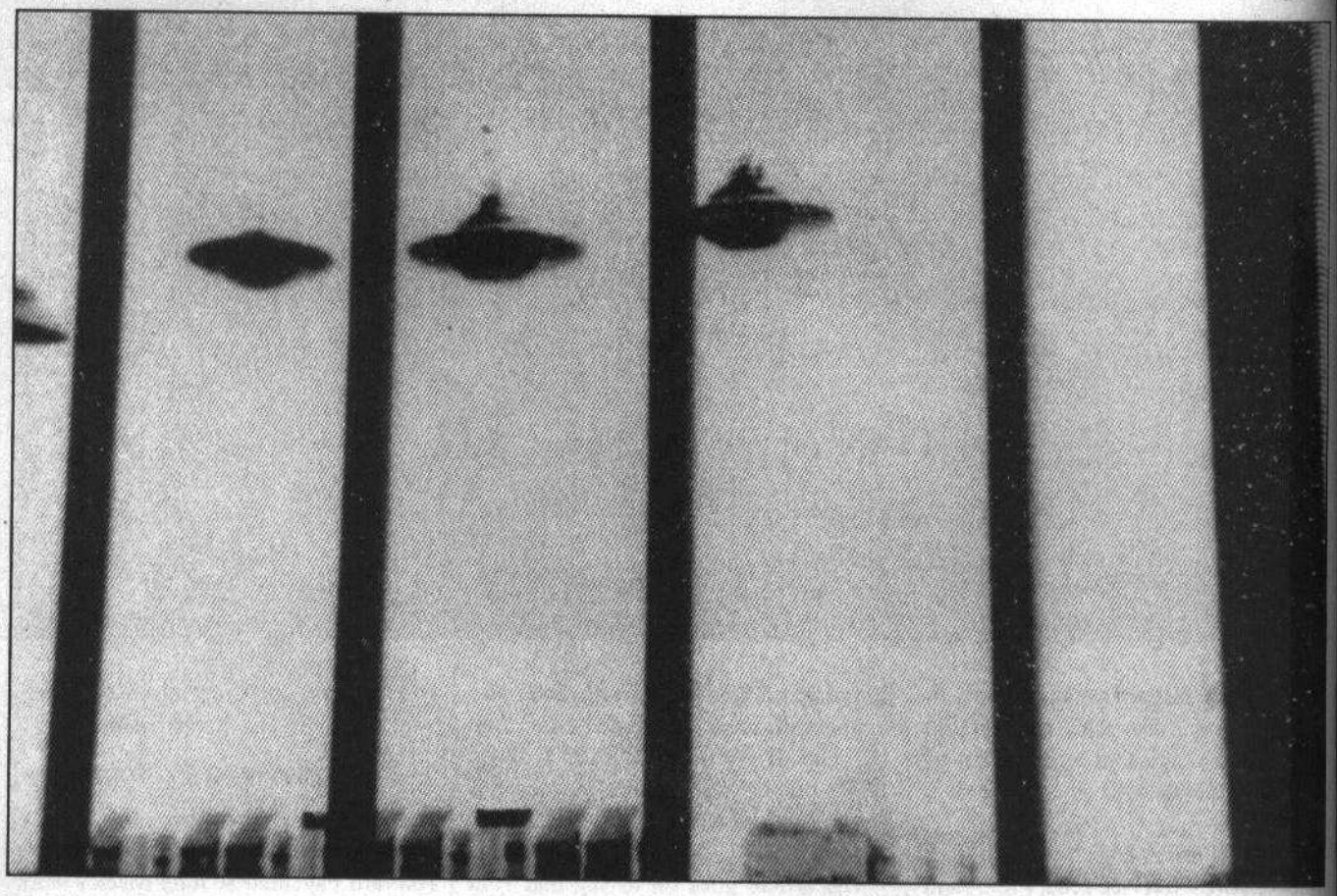
The Harvard Professor

From Arizona we move on to Boston and the controversial investigation into Harvard Psychiatrist John Mack's work with abductees by the Harvard Medical School. An article in *The Boston Globe* dated August 3, 1995, is headlined: "Harvard Takes 'No Adverse Action' On UFO Researcher." The reporter's name is Alex Beam.

"After a year-long investigation, the

After a year-long investigation, the Harvard Medical School has decided not to censure psychiatrist John Mack, a tenured professor and nationally known UFO researcher who has publicly asserted that extraterrestrial beings have 'invaded our physical reality and [are] affecting the lives of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people.'

Harvard Medical School has decided not to censure psychiatrist John Mack, a tenured professor and nationally known UFO researcher who has publicly asserted that extraterrestrial beings have 'invaded our physical reality and [are] affecting the lives of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people.'



"Mack had become a *cause celebre* at Harvard after the 1994 publication of his best-selling book, *Abduction*. In countless television and newspaper interviews, he was inevitably dubbed 'the Harvard professor who believes in UFOs,' causing considerable anguish to many of his colleagues.

"The Medical School committee's preliminary report, drafted earlier this year, chastised Mack for 'affirming the delusions' of his many patients who claim to have been abducted by aliens. The committee also found Mack to be 'in violation of the standards of conduct expected of a member of the faculty of Harvard University.'"

The article also says that Medical School Dean Daniel Tosteson informed Mack that the review carried out by a "Special Faculty Committee" had ended and that, according to Anne Taylor, a Harvard University counsel, "John Mack is just as he started out—a perfectly full-fledged member of the Harvard faculty with no adverse action taken."

The Rockefeller Report

From the politics of academia at Harvard, we move on to politics on a presidential scale. The following is taken from the *Daily News* in New York, is dated August 24, 1995, and was written by George Rush and Joanna Molloy.

"President Clinton may have to hold still for a lecture on UFOs if he expects to squeeze campaign money out of Lau-

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rance Rockefeller.

"The 85-year-old philanthropist was among the VIPs at Clinton's 49th birthday last weekend in Wyoming. And it's safe to say that the venture capitalist has the President's ear—at least while Clinton is vacationing on the Rockefeller spread.

"It's...likely that Rockefeller will bring up the alien issue.

"Immigrants from Mexico? No, from outer space.

"Rockefeller has been pressing the Clinton administration to open the government's UFO files.

"Correspondence we've obtained shows that Rockefeller has told White House Science Advisor John Gibbons that the government must put an end to '40-plus years of denial on the subject' of UFOs, particularly the rumored crash of a spacecraft in Roswell, N.M., in 1947.

"Rockefeller said he has been 'encouraged' by Gibbons' suggestion that he make Roswell a 'test case.'

"A Rockefeller-funded study on UFO activity—conducted recently with the help of three former astronauts—should be presented to the White House this fall, according to Michael Luckman of the New York Center for UFO Research.

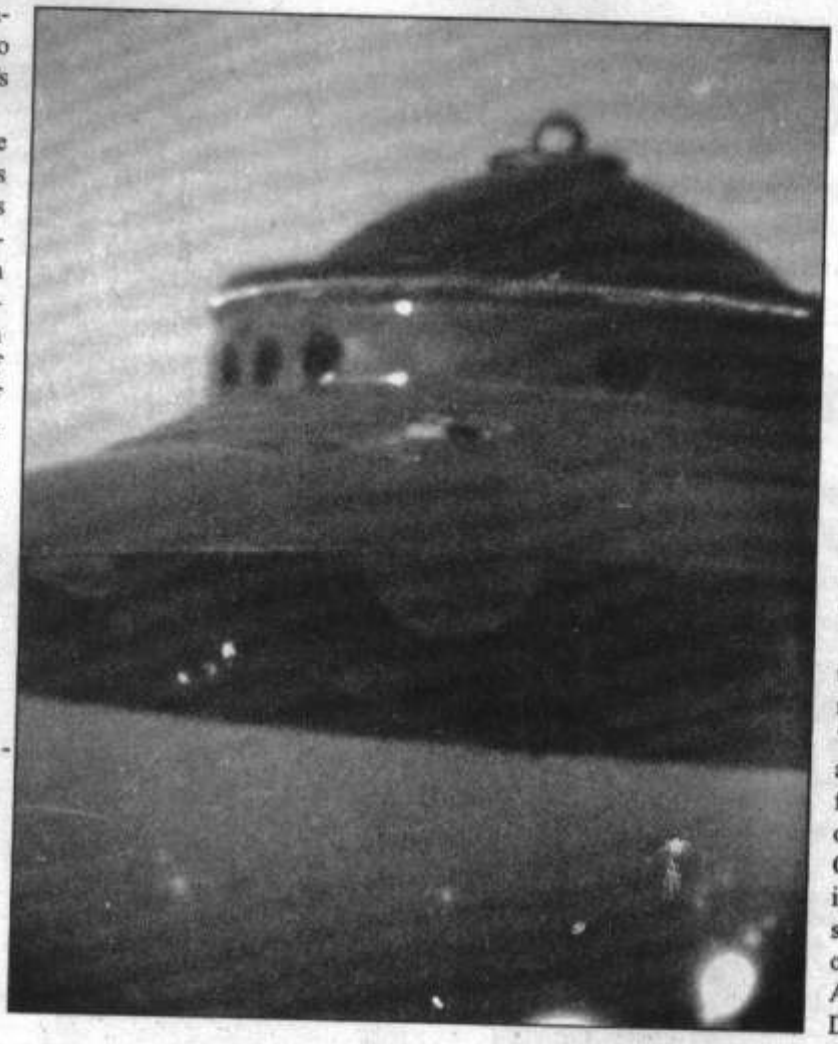
"Rockefeller is also said to have financed a group trying to contact extraterrestrials with lasers.

"What makes Rockefeller so interested in E.T.? Some say the octogenarian hopes the aliens will share their secrets of longevity.

"I don't know about any anti-aging cure," says Rockefeller spokesman Frasier Sietel. "But Laurance's interests are broad. He's a real eclectic fellow.'"

Roswell Update

Another attempt to wrench classified UFO information from the government occurred that summer. *The Daily Record* in Roswell, N.M. published the following report on efforts to learn the truth about what happened there in 1947. The reporter's name is Bruce Brown and the article appeared in the July 30, 1995 edition under the headline "GAO: RAAF Messages Destroyed."



"All of the outgoing messages from the Roswell Army Air Field from October 1946 to December 1949 were destroyed without proper authority", according to findings released by the U.S. General Accounting Office.

"The GAO is the investigative arm of Congress, and was asked by Rep. Steven Schiff, R-N.M., to identify any government records concerning the July 1947 crash of an object near Roswell.

"The GAO released its findings Friday in an 18-page document addre to Schiff, who immediately made document available to the public."

The article quotes Schiff as sa "People will interpret the missing d ments in different ways. Some pe will further suggest that this is par the conspiracy. The Air Force sugg that even if these documents were properly destroyed, other document that era were improperly destro also."

The government concede a few poi however. The arti says, "One docum that wasn't destro was the "509th Bo Group July 1947 H tory." In the history was reported that Office of Public Inf mation was kept qu busy during the mo answering inquiries the 'flying disc,' whi was reported to be the possession of t 509th Bomb Grou The object turned out be 'a radar tracking d vice,' the history said.

"The only other do ument found to inclu reference to th 'Roswell Incident' wa a teletype messag from the Dallas offic of the FBI to th Cincinnati office detail ing a telephone conve sation between a officer from the Eigh Air Force and the FBI Dallas office.

"The message de scribed a disc, hexagonal in shape, which was suspended from a balloon by a cable The balloon was about 20 feet in diame ter and resembled a high-altitude weathe balloon with a radar reflector."

Clifford Stone, director of research at the UFO Enigma Museum, is quoted in the article as saying, "I'm angry and I'm bitter because I think Schiff's office got waylaid."

Stone also said the lack of available paperwork is a sure sign the government

It's...likely that Rockefeller will bring up the alien issue. Immigrants from Mexico? No, from outer space. Rockefeller has been pressing the Clinton administration to open the government's UFO files.

is whitewashing something.

UFO Videotaped in Colorado

We now move from New Mexico to neighboring Colorado. *The Mountain Mail* in Salida, Colorado, ran the following article in its August 28, 1995 edition. The reporter was Chris Hunt, and the headline read "Salida Man Reports And Videotapes An Apparent UFO."

"Yesterday, Salidan Tom Edwards was just a casual believer in unexplained phenomena.

"But then he saw a UFO. That's right. An unidentified flying object. A flying saucer.

"'We observed it for at least an hour,' he said. 'It just hovered in the sky, directly west of the sun.'

"Some might say the 42-year old Salidan has spent too much time out under the sun, but he insists what he saw, and what he captured on video tape, was not from this planet.

"'With binoculars, you could see the red and green revolving lights,' he said. 'It was the shape of a disk, and it moved incredibly fast.'"

After Edwards was alerted to the UFO by his daughter, the article goes on, he called the National UFO Observatory in Seattle and reported his sighting. Edwards said the Observatory was flooded with calls from people seeing the same object in Montana and Pennsylvania.

Edwards described the flying disc as enormous.

"It was like a big slice of light about as wide as the full moon. It just hovered up there for about an hour, maybe more," he said.

"Edwards' video tape of the UFO shows a single slice of light, horizontal to the camera lens," Hunt writes. "Occasionally, red and pale green lights appear to revolve around the object. The camera shows the UFO at eight times the normal size. With the naked eye, Edwards said, the revolving lights were harder to see. With a pair of binoculars, Edwards said he could almost make out individual light panels on the front of

the saucer."

The article concludes with a final statement from Edwards.

"I'm a believer now, let me tell you," he said. "I know what I saw was not from this earth."In the fall of 1995 there were sightings reported by newspapers in both Bangkok, Thailand, and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

We'll deal with the Bangkok story first. In the October 18, 1995 edition of a paper called *The Post*, under the headline "UFOs In Formation Filmed By South Korean," the following article appeared. (There was no reporter by-line with the story.)

"Footage purportedly showing unidentified flying objects (UFOs) in formation was aired on an evening prime time television newscast on Monday that riveted viewers across South Korea.

"The film, allegedly taken on September 4 by a local cable television cameraman north of Seoul, showed a clear image of white, luminous saucer-shaped objects flying in formation against a blue sky.

"The footage, aired for four minutes and 44 seconds, showed a big brilliant cluster comprising 10 small saucers that flew in parallel, in a vertical formation."

The article quotes Lee Hee-Hong, a cameraman for Kangwon Cable News, as saying "The flying objects were incidentally taken by my TV camera while I was on a trip to scout out locations."

For fear of ridicule, the article says, the news program had been reluctant to go public with the film.

"MBC television said it was the first UFO film footage taken in South Korea and shown unedited. In the first week of September, UFOs were witnessed by many people in the area, newspapers said, although scientists remained skeptical about the alleged sightings."

UFO at noon taken by police officer, Painted Lake, Wisconsin.

Mysterious Objects Plague Persian Gulf

The following month, the *Saudi Gazette* in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia ran the following article. The headline read "UFO Sighting In UAE Reported." The article appeared on November 28, 1995, and again there was no reporter's by-line.

"Two triangle-shaped unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been sighted by five men in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the English daily *Gulf News* reported today.

"The UFOs, a little smaller fighter jets, appeared for seconds sky over Dubai and emitted strong beam-like blue rays splashed wit Mohammed Ahsan, 24, was quot saying.

"The air conditioner technicia on his way home from work yest together with four colleagues, at a 6:20 PM, when they spotted the flying in from the direction of Ha Market taking off from Dubai Int tional Airport.

"'I first thought the object w plane, but then it made no noise at As it skimmed over us, I though could well be a UFO,' the excited Ah told the paper in a telephone call.

"UFOs have been sighted earlier the UAE, with the last sighting repor 1989 in Dubai," the report quoted U researcher Anton Makk as saying.

Mutilations Abound

Another aspect of the UFO phenom ena that seems to continue unabated the recurring livestock mutilations ta ing place all over the country. In a pap called *The Times Record News* in W

All of the outgoing messages from the Roswell Army Air Field from October 1946 to December 1949 were destroyed without proper authority, according to findings released by the U.S. General Accounting Office.

chita Falls, Texas, the following article appeared on November 23, 1995 under the headline "Livestock Mutilations Leave Officials Puzzled." The reporters' names are Sharen Housley and Holly Clanahan.

"File this one under 'X.'

"Common fodder for paranormal shows like *The X-Files* and *Sightings*, livestock mutilations have given Tillman County, Okla., officials some real-life *Unsolved Mysteries*.

"In the past two weeks, three head of cattle have reportedly been found mutilated in the northeastern portion of the county. Since March, there have been two other reports of mutilations in the same area.

"In some of the cases, the cattle's throats, tongues, ears or tails were removed. In the three most recent cases, the animals' reproductive organs were taken, too.

"Precision cuts were made on the cattle and only a small amount of blood was found around the remains.

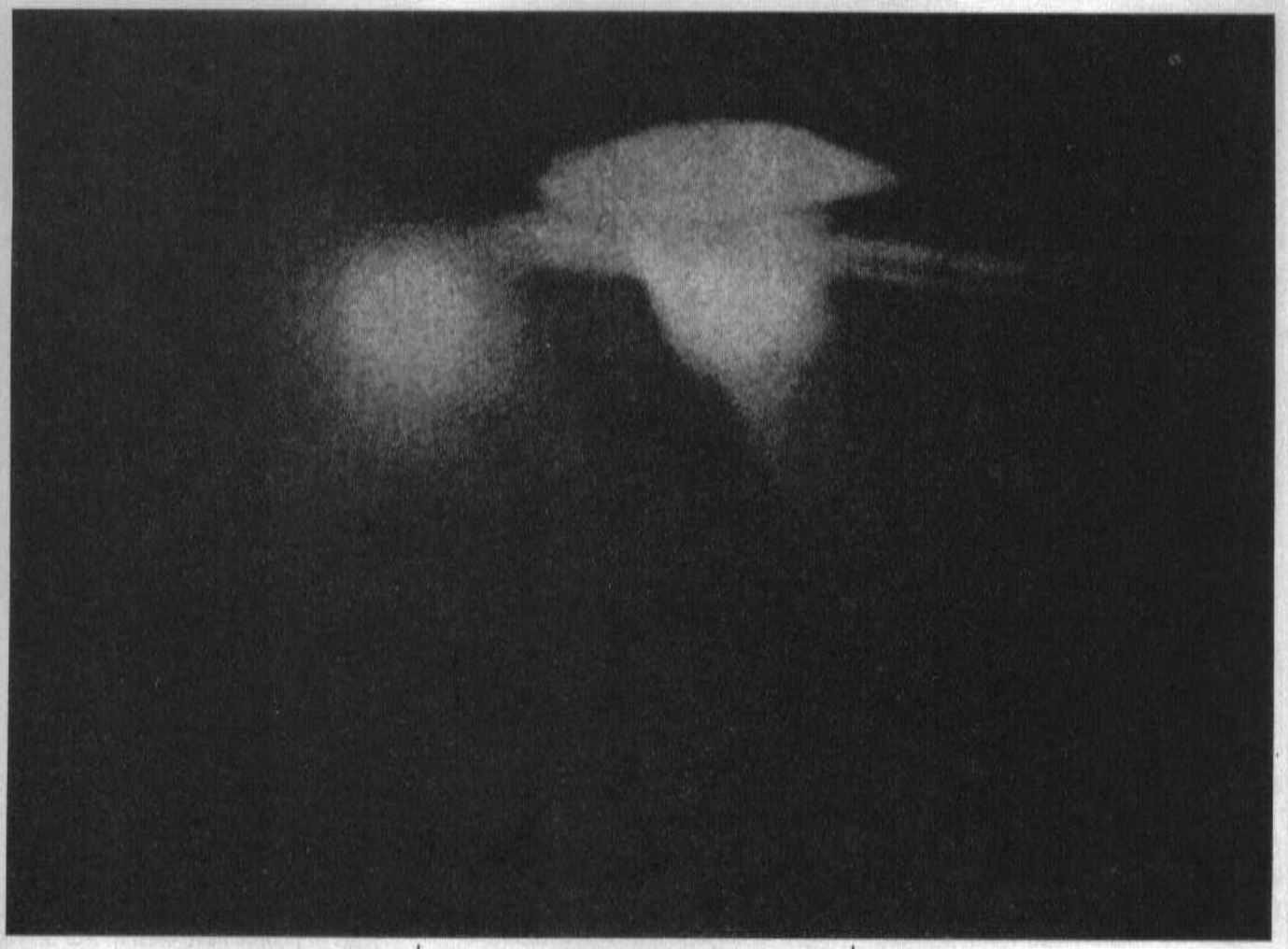
"Could it be someone with a grudge against area ranchers? Is there a more ominous overtone? Or, are the carcasses simply a link in the food chain?

"Tillman County Sheriff Billy Hanes wouldn't speculate.

"'Yes, we have had three and yes, they were mutilated,' he said. 'I'll let people read into it what they want from that.'

"Other than that, he said, 'I'm not going to comment.'

"Hanes cited the fear of copycat attacks and the fact that there have been up to 8,000 mutilations across the country over the last few years and 'nobody's ever been arrested.'"



After mentioning that nearby Comanche County, Okla., to the northeast of Tillman County, had six reports of

cattle mutilations in the previous six months, the article closes by saying that all the cases remain under investigation.

UFO Hovers Over Redding

Another sightings report was published in the January 24, 1996 edition of the *Record-Searchlight* in Redding, California. The reporter's name is Candace L. Brown, and the headline read: "UFO Flap: Residents See Strange Craft In The Sky."

"It was large, it moved slowly and its belly sparkled with colors.

"Whatever the reported UFO sighting over north Redding on Monday night really was, it frightened and amazed the people who saw it.

"Bear Mountain Road resident Dave Thomsen said his wife, two children and neighbors 1-1/2 miles away spotted the large, slow-moving, lighted object about 9 PM Monday. He documented the sighting with the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle.

"'It was something else,' Thomsen, 42, said. 'It kept us going for hours.'

"The craft, which he estimated was 150 feet wide and 300 feet long, flew about 20 mph directly over his residence—not more than 1,000 feet from the ground, he said. Looking up at its belly as it flew over, Thomsen said he saw what appeared to be landing gear lights and a sparkling circle of blue, green and silver.

"'They weren't lights—they were special effects kind of stuff,' he said.

"The object made a jet-engine noise—loud enough to be heard from inside the house but not a roar, Thomsen said. When it passed over, he could see a glow from engines."

The article also quotes Thomsen's wife Nancy as saying that she first saw the craft some distance from the house, moving south, and thought it was a big plane.

"As it drew nearer, she saw that the craft fanned out in back, with a narrow nose. She described the colors on its belly as a 'soft sprinkle, sparkling in a circle.'

"About 8:30 PM, Monday, Melinda Gray of Round Mountain also spotte huge, lighted object in the sky headi south.

"The object, which she saw abo Highway 299 near Buena Vista, h white and red lights, Mrs. Gray said."

Alien Spacecraft Invades P

Another sightings flap took place Waynesboro, PA, that was reported the March 14, 1996 edition of *T Record-Herald* under the headli "'UFOs' Have Tongues Wagging." T reporter's name is Jill Ercolino

"For the past four nights, it's bee hovering over Path Valley and Ambe son Valley and occasionally flashe blue, pink and white lights.

"Lots of people have seen it. But the don't know what the heck it is.

"Could it be an alien spaceship a some have suggested? There are thos who aren't convinced.

"'I'm a UFO nut, but I think it's prob ably a hoax,' an employee at Lakevie Motel and Restaurant said, adding tha

"Some might say the 42-year old Salidan has spent too much time out under the sun, but he insists what he saw, and what he captured on video tape, was not from this planet. With binoculars, you could see the red and green revolving lights," he said. "It was the shape of a disk, and it moved incredibly fast."

whatever it is, the UFO sure has tongues wagging. 'It's got everybody in an uproar here.'

"'They talk about it at breakfast, they talk about it at lunch, they talk about it when they walk out the doors,' said Patty McNemar, a cook at T.J.'s Restaurant in Willow Hill who saw the flying object around 9 Wednesday night.

"Does she think it's an alien spaceship?

"'No, I don't...I just thought it was a neat thing to see,' she said.

"The sightings were first reported Tuesday on Mix 95's morning radio show, featuring Rick Alexander and Lisa Harding. Since the news broke, listeners have been calling daily with reported sightings, Alexander said this morning.

"Curious, Alexander traveled to the outskirts of Amberson to join a crowd of UFO watchers last night. The Path Valley area in northern Franklin County also includes the towns of Fannettsburg, Spring Run, Dry Run and Willow Hill. Many of the sightings have been in the area of Amberson Mountain.

"'Whatever it is, I saw it,' Alexander said. 'It was spherical in nature and had spiderlike legs. Occasionally, it would flash different color lights.'

"Alexander said he saw the object moving around in the sky around 7:15 PM and that it stayed there for about two hours.

"While he has 'no real belief one way or the other,' he'll continue to take calls about the UFO on the morning show.

"But he probably won't hear from a member of the Fannett-Metal Fire Co., who's heard all the rumors, but still doesn't plan to check them out.

"'Until they land in my back yard,' he said, 'I don't give a darn.'"

Taking a break from sightings report stories, we shift gears again and look at another case of a mental health professional and his embattled career as a UFO researcher.

UFOs and the Psychologist

A story from *The Bee* in Sacramento, California, dated March 23, 1996, with the headline "Psychologist Loses Bid To Regain His License," and with no reporter's by-line, relates the following:

"THEN: In 1993, Sacramento clinical psychologist Richard J. Boylan was sued by three patients. They alleged that Boylan, president of the Sacramento Valley Psychological Association, had used his belief in extraterrestrial life and UFOs to diagnose and treat their emotional problems.

"The women claimed Boylan's counseling left them dependent upon him as a 'father-like figure,' and that he asked them to sit with him nude in hot tubs and join him in nude exercises. Boylan denied the sexual allegations and defended his therapy as meeting acceptable standards.

"The patients also complained to the state Board of Psychology, which last year revoked Boylan's license. The Board of Behavioral Science Examiners also revoked Boylan's licenses as a child counselor and clinical social worker.

"NOW: Sacramento attorney Joseph C. George, who represented the patients, said they settled out of court and the terms are confidential.

"In January, Boylan went to court ar-

guing that his licenses were wrongly taken away. On Feb. 8, the court turned him down.

"Boylan said he is exploring other legal remedies, noting that the legal problems have devastated him financially. He has appealed for financial help on the Internet, saying his counseling and writings about UFO cover-ups led to 'character assassination.'"

Ten Thousand Dollars Offered for Proof

From an abduction researcher and his UFO-related legal troubles, we next proceed to a public gamble by debunker Philip Klass.

The Statesman Journal in Salem, OR, reported in its April 14, 1996 edition, under the headline of "Prove Your Abduction, He'll Give You $10,000" the story of Klass' latest maneuver as a debunker of the UFO phenomenon. The reporter's name is Tom Forstrom.

"Philip J. Klass is the nation's top UFO debunker, a man who puts $10,000 of his own money on the line and says 'Prove it.'

"So far, he's held onto his money.

"He has sleuthed the UFO phenomenon for nearly three decades, mostly as a hobby. Klass, who has an electrical engineering degree, was a senior editor of 'Aviation Week and Space Technology' magazine for 34 years, and is still a contributing editor.

"He is the author of *UFO Abductions: A Dangerous Game* and three other books, and publishes a bimonthly newsletter called *Skeptics UFO Newsletter.*

"Klass is also one of the founders of the Committee For The Scientific Investigation Of Claims Of The Paranormal, and is head of that group's UFO subcommittee.

"'I can think of no other story I'd rather see than to say at last we have found one case—one UFO report—that cannot be explained in prosaic, down-to-earth terms: There are extraterrestrials. The headlines would say, "Famous UFO skeptic admits he was wrong." I would be rich,' he says. 'I would charge $10,000 a lecture.'

"But he doubts that will ever happen.

"'In fact, we have had 50 years since the first sighting over Washington—Mount Rainier. If anyone could come up with one piece of credible evidence, it would no longer be a mystery,' he s

"What we have, he says, is talk debate. But there's no physical proof

"Here is the Klass challenge: If one who says they were abducted space aliens goes to the FBI and rep their kidnapping, and if the FBI disc ers enough evidence to actually inve gate the abduction, Klass will pay person $10,000.

"But Klass reminds the abduct that anyone who falsely reports an duction—a kidnapping—to the F faces a five-year jail term and a fine $10,000.

"So Klass says those who say th were abducted aren't exactly picking number and waiting in line at the lo FBI office.

"Klass, who lives in Washingto D.C., is the foil to Budd Hopkin the author of *Intruders,* and Whitl Strieber, who wrote *Communion.* T books are credited with starting wh Klass calls the 'abduction cult.' H newsletter frequently takes them task."

After a discussion on the ill effects people that occur when they pursue th idea that they have been abducted, th

The film, allegedly taken on September 4 by a local cable television cameraman north of Seoul, showed a clear image of white, luminous saucer-shaped objects flying in formation against a blue sky. The footage, aired for four minutes and 44 seconds, showed a big brilliant cluster comprising 10 small saucers that flew in parallel, in a vertical formation.

article says Klass can't answer why these sorts of stories get told at all.

"'There is no single explanation for why people tell these stories, why they act like they do. For many it is an opportunity to become a celebrity. For other people, it is a way to gain attention. Some people are psychologically disturbed,' he says.

"Klass, whose UFO investigations have been hailed by 'Scientific American' magazine and by science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke, says he will continue to dog those making claims he says are false and dangerous."

But in spite of lawsuits and debunkers, the sightings keep coming. The phenomenon transcends our earthly bickering about it and pays no heed to our attempts to "rationalize" what so many are seeing and experiencing. The following is from a newspaper called *The Review* in Hayward, CA, is dated July 12, 1996, is headlined "Mysterious Red Beams Blindside Detectives" and was written by Glenn Chapman.

"As sheriff's detectives hid in the early-morning darkness Thursday near a train trestle over Altamont Pass to look for whoever has been zapping motorists with laser beams, an intense red light reportedly flashed above the rural countryside several miles away.

"A Patterson Pass Road resident told the Alameda County Sheriff's Department he was in the back yard about 1:30 that morning when he noticed a narrow red beam cut through the sky.

"Miles down the grade from Patterson Pass, detectives had staked out the terrain around the Union Pacific Railroad trestle that crosses Altamont Pass Road near Carrol Road. But they couldn't find the source of laser beams fired in past weeks.

"Almost exactly 24 hours earlier, sheriff's Deputy Richard Frish was driving on Altamont when he noticed a red beam and felt his left cheek warm up. When he turned to look, the light temporarily blinded him.

"Moments earlier, a trucker told Frish his truck had been hit by such a beam as he was hauling a load of trash to the Altamont Landfill. Other truckers en route to the landfill have related similar experiences, according to sheriff's Lt. David Hoig."

The article concludes by saying that sheriff's investigators had ruled out the possibility that laser flashes in the Altamont came from nearby Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories.

A major event in cultural terms was last summer's movie blockbuster *Independence Day.* The July 4, 1996, issue of *The Denver Post* carried an article written by Pete G. Chronis and headlined: "New Film Stirs Up Interest In UFOs, Extraterrestrials' Malevolence Hit."

Blockbuster Hit Vs. "The Truth"

"As the science-fiction thriller *Independence Day* debuted in U.S. theaters yesterday, the Air Force sighed, 'Oh, no, not again,' while UFO believers bemoaned another 'malevolent' portrayal of extraterrestrials.

"The highly publicized film is about an invasion by vicious space aliens.

"In the UFO-rich environment of the San Luis Valley of Colorado, where, it is said, visitors not of this planet have been dissecting livestock for decades, those in the know said the movie will increase awareness of the phenomenon. And the same goes for Roswell, N.M., where a space disc allegedly crashed on July 4, 1947.

"'My biggest problem with movies like this,' said Chandra Chandler, national director of the Colorado Springs-based UFO Institute, 'is they see an alien presence as the enemy, something to be defeated. That bothers me. If they wanted to take over, they would done it 500 years ago, before we all full of preservatives and junk fo if they wanted to eat us.' (The alie *Independence Day* destroy the wo most important cities.)

"But if aliens are responsible animal mutilations, doesn't that i malevolence? Chandler noted tha mans kill and eat animals, and the a 'are not doing it to us.'

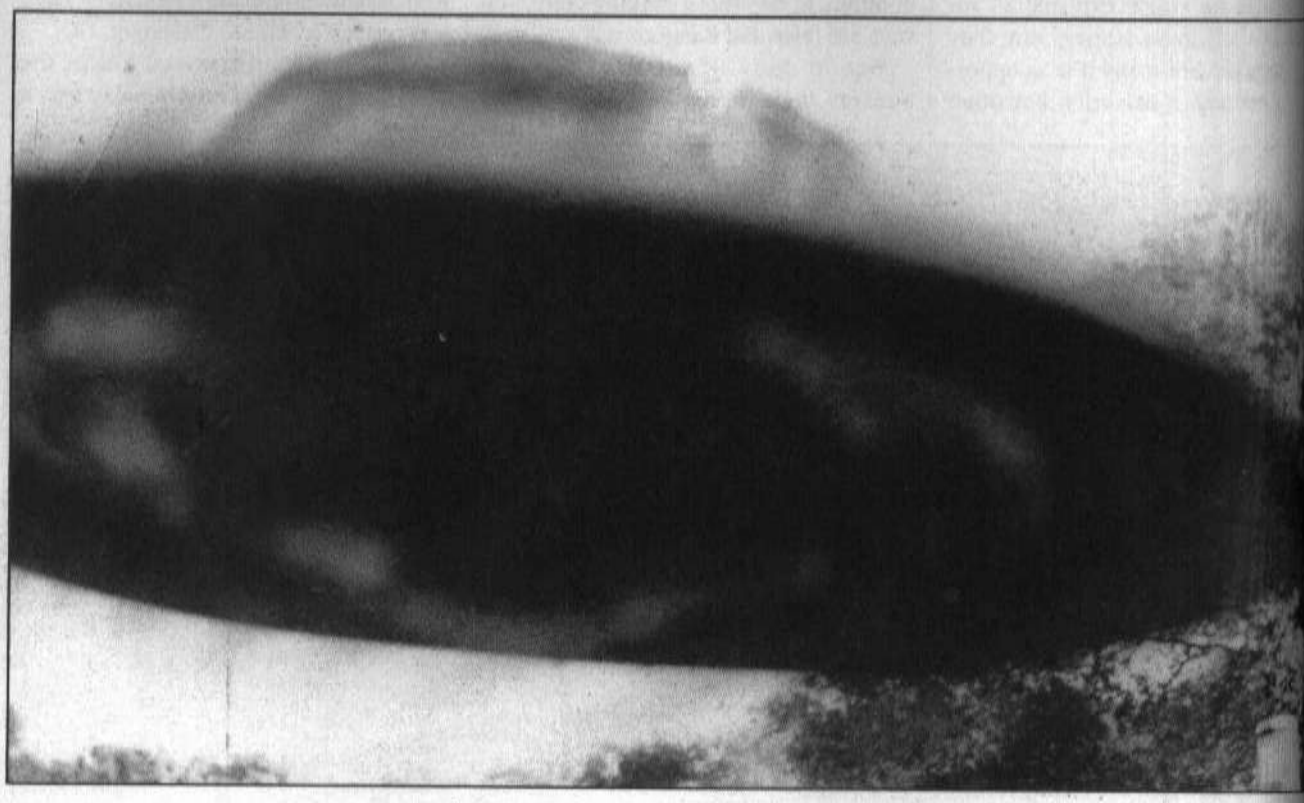
"But at least a film like *Independe Day* gets people to look up at the and 'raises awareness of UFOs an alien presence,' Chandler said. But ing awareness will not necessarily vert skeptics."

The Denver Post also spoke to Force Lt. Col. Mac McLaurin at Pentagon, who said new science-fi movies often spark an increase in ported UFO sightings. The media m be to blame, too, he hinted.

"'I'd say every time people w *Sightings* or *The X-Files,* some of shows have a tendency to bring in ph calls,' McLaurin said.

"The Air Force hasn't investig UFOs since 1969 when "Project B book" ended, McLaurin said."

An opposing viewpoint is voice *The Denver Post* article by aut



Two triangle-shaped unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been sighted by five men in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the English daily Gulf News reported today. The UFOs, a little smaller than fighter jets, appeared for seconds in the sky over Dubai and emitted strong laser beam-like blue rays splashed with red, Mohammed Ahsan, 24, was quoted as saying.

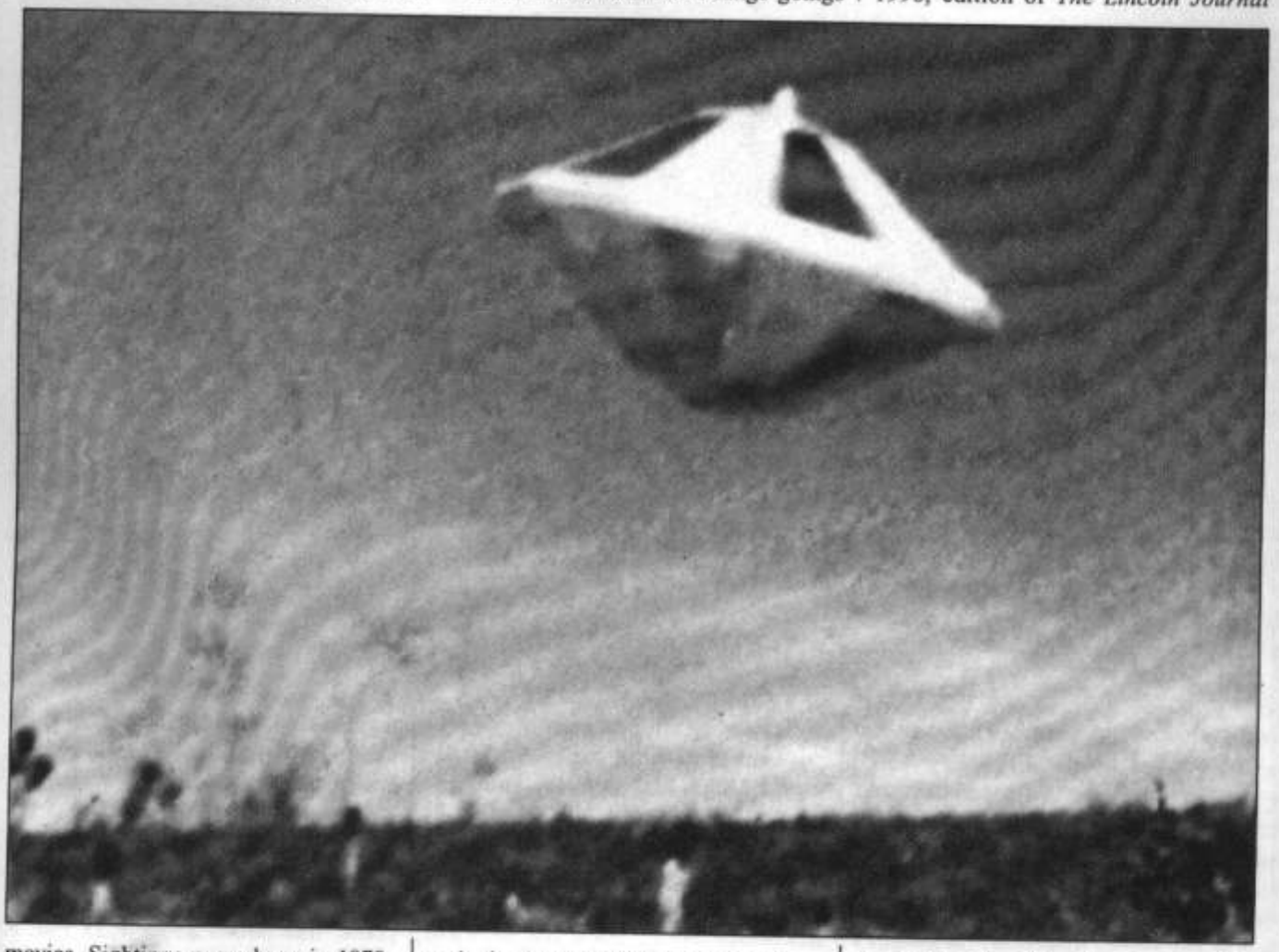
Christopher O'Brien, "who has chronicled UFO phenomena in the San Luis Valley."

O'Brien told the paper that there is no correlation between sightings and movies. Sightings were down in 1979–80, when *Close Encounters* was released.

"Science-fiction flicks appear to have shifted from the warm, friendly portrayals of *Close Encounters* and *E.T.* to 'viewing the potential off-planet intelligence as being extremely hostile and aggressive,' O'Brien said."

O'Brien also said the strange goings on in the San Luis Valley aren't new.

"'I have a feeling that the things people have been seeing have always been here, going back thousands of years,' O'Brien said."



Crop Circles Remain a Mystery

Later that same month, the July 25, 1996, edition of *The Lincoln Journal Star* in Lincoln, Nebraska, ran an article by Al J. Laukaitis under the headline "Crop Circle Still A Mystery." The following is one of many newspaper accounts of crop circles throughout the

world that were reported in the last year and a half.

"Hundreds of people are coming out to see Nebraska's version of the 'X Files'—a crop circle that appeared mysteriously in a barley field southwest of this Boyd County village over the weekend.

"Ever since Kelly Reiser discovered it early Monday on his farm and asked Butte County Sheriff Duane Pavel to investigate, folks from in town and out of town, including two researchers, have come out to get a firsthand look at the big, weird circle.

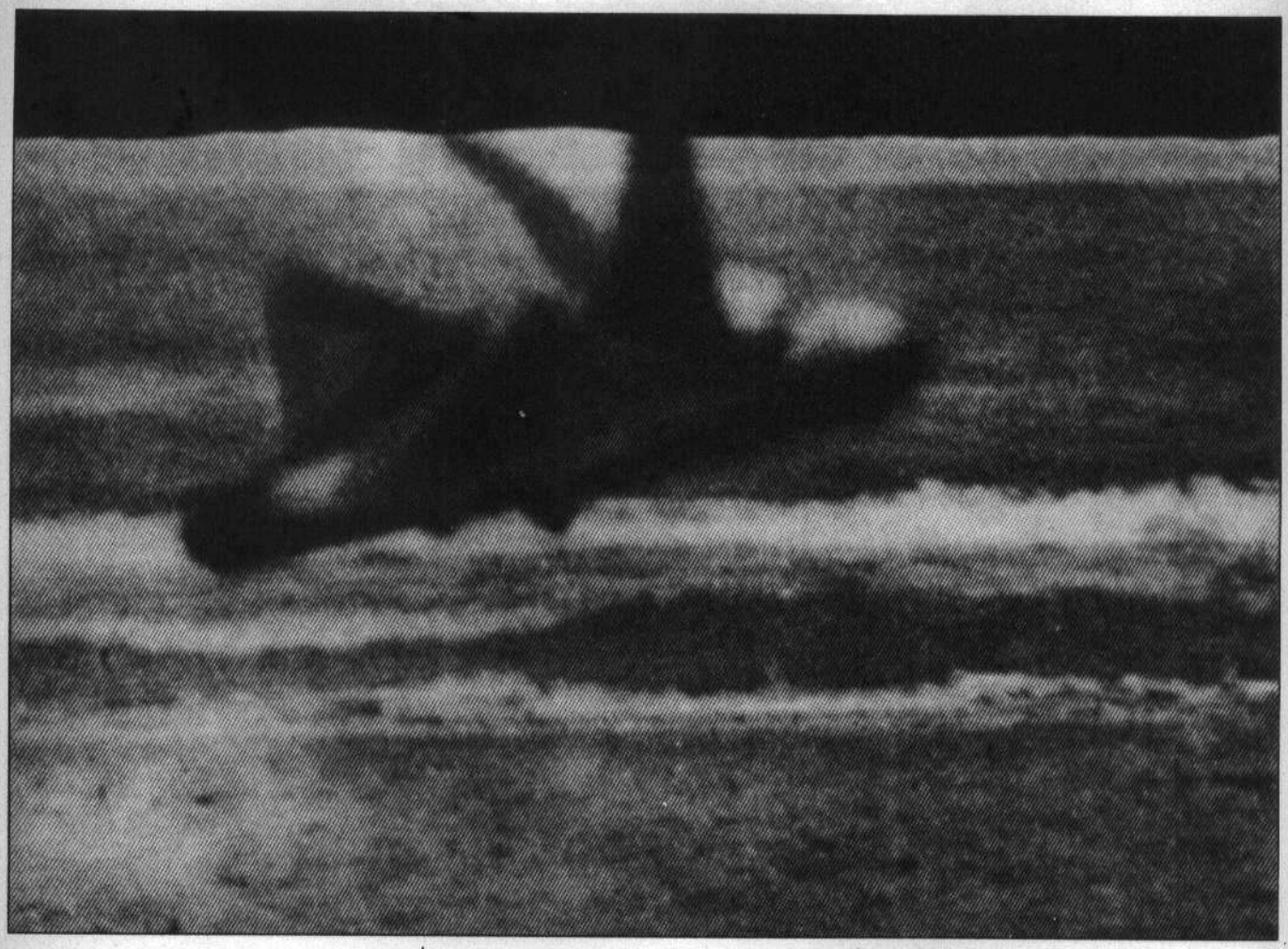
"'Anybody who comes out there and walks out there—they come back shaking their heads saying it was unbelievable,' Pavel said.

"Lifelong resident Bill Hansen, 68, was one of the sightseers. He said he's never seen anything like it and doesn't have a clue about who or what made the three concentric circles.

"'I don't have any idea. I know that it is not man-made. It's just so smooth. Everything is in place. It goes around in a circle and every blade of barley is laid down neatly—just like you were drawing a picture,' Hansen said.

"The crop circle does have an air of mystery to it.

"There was no evidence of tracks or scorch marks when Pavel looked at it Monday morning. The barley in the innermost circle lies on the ground in a counterclockwise direction as if a big weight had pressed the barley to the ground, while, in the next ring, the barley is standing tall. The outer ring is also made up of flattened barley. Witnesses say none of the barley plants appear broken."



The article quotes Sheriff Pavel about the possibility of UFO involvement.

"'I'll be honest with you. I've heard talk about UFOs. Some machine had to come down and put it (the barley) down because of its perfection,' said Pavel. 'Nobody is ruling out UFOs—not around this area they're not.'

"Randy Schmidt, owner of Bill's Market in Butte, said his customers have been talking a lot about it. He said some have speculated that it could have been created by a UFO landing or by pranksters.

"'It's really interesting. You don't see how kids could have done it,' Schmidt said. 'I guess I'm keeping an open mind until somebody tells me what caused it.'

"There may be some credence to the UFO rumor. Two women told the sheriff they heard weird noises and then later saw strange lights in the sky Sunday night as they drove home from the Butte Golf Course, which is not far from Reiser's barley field.

"Pavel declined to identify the women to keep them away from the media, but he did say one of the women told him she heard loud 'model airplane' like noises about 9:35 PM. A short time later she saw two large, white, bright lights and two smaller white lights in the sky.

"'Her impression of it was it looked like a semi (truck) rolling over a small

The craft, which he estimated was 150 feet wide and 300 feet long, flew about 20 mph directly over his residence—not more than 1,000 feet from the ground, he said. Looking up at its belly as it flew over, Thomsen said he saw what appeared to be landing gear lights and a sparkling circle of blue, green and silver.

car,' Pavel said.

"The other woman told Pavel that she left the Butte Golf Course about 10 minutes later and saw identical lights in the northwest sky. 'She thought it was a combine farther out in the field and then they (the lights) all blacked out,' Pavel said.

"Both women contacted the sheriff Tuesday after news of the crop circle spread. Word got out as Pavel began seeking help to find out what may have caused it. He not only called Offutt Air Force Base near Bellevue and the Nebraska State Patrol, but also the FBI, Secret Service, Smithsonian Institute and NASA."

Alien Autopsy Controversy

According to the article, the response to Pavel's calls was a runaround and that no federal government official had come out to the site to investigate. In conclusion, the article briefly notes that the Reisers are allowing people to come out to see the circle.

Meanwhile, the subject of aliens continues to make inroads into the media. *The Journal* in Albuquerque, NM, was among many newspapers to report on *Penthouse* magazine's announcement that it would publish photos of a dead alien allegedly taken at Roswell, NM, in 1947. The article, dated August 20, 1996, was written by Leslie Linthicum and bore the headline "Nude Not Alien To Roswell, Penthouse Star Looks Like N.M. Movie Prop."

"Nude photos of a Roswell resident are featured in the September issue of *Penthouse Magazine,* which has been a hot item in the conservative town.

"The photo spread purports to be exclusive documentation taken by U.S. Army personnel of the autopsy of an alien recovered from the crash of a UFO near Roswell in 1947.

"*Penthouse* publisher Bob Guccione says in the magazine that the photos were taken from 49-year-old film footage and that he obtained them from an unnamed party. He identifies them as 'incontrovertible evidence' of the existence of alien life forms.

"But the people who run the International UFO Museum on Main Street in Roswell recognize the naked, milky-skinned star of the photo spread as a local—the alien that lies on a gurney in one of the museum's displays.

"'We have no question whatsoever that it is the prop,' museum director Deon Crosby says. 'The hospital gurney, the fingers bent exactly the same, the pock marks on the face—everything is identical. Anyone can tell it's the same. We've had a lot of people calling and saying, "That looks like yours."'

"Crosby should know. She has a copy of the thick *Penthouse,* filled with the more usual content of photographs of naked women, at her side. Buying the magazine was a first for her and many others in the Bible Belt seat of Chaves County.

"'Even in Roswell,' says Crosby, '*Penthouse* has sold out.'

"Joining the Roswell museum is ParaNet, a communications network devoted to the paranormal. Michael Corbin, president of the Denver-based company, compared the *Penthouse* photos to videotape taken of the Roswell museum display and concluded that they are the same.

"He devoted a radio show to the topic because, he says, 'It irritates me. People are going to buy *Penthouse* and say, "Oh, my God, here's the smoking gun." This is the type of thing that muddles the legitimate research.'

"The alien autopsy model on display at the museum is a prop from the movie *Roswell,* which told the story of a reported alien aircraft crash on the plains northwest of Roswell in 1947. Debris and bodies were reportedly taken from the crash site by Army officials, tested and autopsied and kept secret. The Army maintains the debris came from a fallen experimental weather balloon.

"The cover of *Penthouse* touts 'The Alien—Worlds' First Authentic Photograph.' Inside is a four-page spread of grainy close-ups of a bluish skinned body of indeterminate gender, including one full-frontal nude shot. The magazine says the spread is 'perhaps history's most important photograph.' The figure has the characteristic large round head associated with most descriptions of space aliens.

"Where the pictures came from—and whether Guccione was the victim of a hoax—remains a mystery.

"Guccione could not be reached for comment on the photos, according to his spokesman. Guccione says in the magazine that the photos come from a film taken during an autopsy of the creature. They belong, he says, to the daughter of a German-born scientist who worked on secret U.S. government projects, including investigating the Roswell crash."The scientist gave several frames of the footage to his daughter and she dealt with Guccione when she decided to make the footage public, he said.

"The Roswell Museum is free and open to the public and visitors are encouraged to photograph exhibits. It is also very busy. Thirteen thousand people signed the museum's guest registry during the 49th anniversary of the crash in July. Anyone could have photographed or videotaped the dummy, Crosby said.

"'Pictures are taken of this little guy all the time,' says Crosby."

UFOs in the Holy Land

The next article we will examine came from an Associated Press wire service report. It appeared in newspapers on September 22, 1996, and was written by Karin Laub. The headline read: "UFO Craze Sweeping Israelis."

"It's not the invasion Israel feared most.

"But aliens alighting in the Holy Land are grabbing the headlines these days, with a flurry of media reports on UFO sightings and abductions by extraterrestrials in egg-shaped spaceships.

"'The Great Invasion,' read a headline in the Maariv daily above a list of 16 examples of UFO sightings in the past three months. Last week, Maariv said, hundreds stopped on a major highway and stared at what looked like an alien spacecraft doing loops above Tel Aviv before dawn.

"A 62-year old Israeli who said he was abducted by aliens on his way to the post office was interviewed on television and radio. The story made front-page news for a second day last week when a lab analysis of yellow dust he says was showered on him by his captors was different from any soil found in the area.

"Skeptics say Israelis are simply being carried away by U.S. pop culture. The movie *Independence Day*—about an alien invasion of Earth—is a blockbuster here. The *X-Files* series—about two FBI agents who investigate paranormal phenomena—is one of the most popular TV shows.

"'I strongly believe that what we have now is hysterical behavior,' said Ariel Cohen, an atmospheric physicist at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"Cohen said that an analysis of video footage of alleged UFO sightings suggested that cameramen had adjusted the focus to make subjects seem unnatural.

"Still, Cohen said, the authorities should investigate sightings and publish the scientific explanations that could be found in most cases.

"Social scientists, however, are fascinated by the craze.

"Benjamin Beit-Hallahami, a psychology professor at Haifa University, says people in modern societies are susceptible to quasi-religious fantasies that send the message 'you are not alone.' Israelis, who live under a perceived military threat from their Arab neighbors, are particularly vulnerable.

"A recent television survey suggested nearly one in two Israelis believe in extraterrestrials. True believers are convinced dramatic events are at hand.

"One incident last week even made police look up and take notice.

"Before dawn Tuesday, Tel Aviv's police switchboard received dozens of calls from people who said they saw a glowing object doing loops over the suburb of Ramat Aviv.

"Police spokesman Gadi Doron said officers reported that they also saw a strange light in the night sky.

"Questions also linger over the c of Uri Sakhov, a retiree who said he en route to the post office when he grabbed by the collar and pulled int egg-shaped spacecraft. His captors w green, reached up to his chest and m unintelligible sounds, Sakhov said.

"Scientists who analyzed the yel dust found it contained 55 percent minum and was different from area

"Michael Kobl, marketing manag the lab that examined the dust, said ples were to sent to NASA, the U space agency. Kobl said the soil's usual composition suggested the U sightings could not be easily dismi

"'If you combine all the incid together, there might be someth there,'" he said.

RAF Jets Chase UFO

From Israel journey around England for a s from *The New The World*, a L don-based ne paper. On Ma 3, 1996, repor David Leslie's a cle headlined "F ing Saucer Sc At Balmoral" a peared, telling a close encou had taken plac Queen Elizabe Highland castle.

"RAF jets chased a UFO from Queen's Balmoral home.

"Two Harrier GR7 jump-jets w scrambled on Wednesday after locals ported seeing a mystery light over Scottish castle.

"One witness claimed the R planes appeared to be locked in a d fight with the UFO. The light appea just after 10 PM and was seen cle eight miles away in Ballater.

"One local said, 'It seemed to app from nowhere right over Balmor Within minutes two jets had zoomed and appeared to be chasing it. Th seemed to climb very quickly, alm standing on end. It was almost as if th were in some sort of dogfight with a light.'

"Another revealed, 'It was like something out of a science-fiction film. The sky was clear and suddenly a circular light was over Balmoral. It didn't seem to come from any particular direction. It was just there all of a sudden.'

"'Next thing all hell broke loose as the jets roared in. They were shooting around in circles. Suddenly the light vanished and after circling the castle, the planes flew off in the direction from which they came.'

"Security around the Royal Family's Highland holiday home has been tightened since the IRA cease fire ended. And a strict exclusion zone bans all aircraft from the skies above the 55,000-acre Balmoral estate on Deeside. None of the Royal Family was there when the scare happened.

"An RAF spokesman said, 'There were two aircraft in the area. They could have been on some kind of exercise. Pilots are not going to report such things as UFOs to anyone and I've been unable to get anything out of them.'

"Balmoral lies on a line running north from the Lothians on which strange lights thought to be flying saucers by UFO investigators have been reported."

Mysterious Disappearances

Let's bring this round-up of UFO events full circle now. Remember the story about the trucker who disappeared in Arizona back in June of 1995 that this article began with? Another Associated Press report appeared in newspapers 14 months later saying that the mystery remains unsolved and that UFOs are still on the list of possible explanations.

Mark Shaffer is the reporter, and his article is headlined: "Man's Disappearance Stirs Interest Of UFO Believers." The story is dated August 18, 1996.

"They came from outer space 20 years ago and hauled poor ol' Travis Walton away from the pine woods of the Mogollon Rim for five days.

"Now, they're back, say some who study unidentified flying objects. This time, they landed only about 10 miles, as the UFO flies, from where phenomenon followers say Walton was beamed up by a blue light and immortalized in the 1993 movie *Fire In The Sky.*

"In the latest incident, last year, Devin Williams was hauling an 18-wheeler full of lettuce and strawberries from Los Angeles to Kansas on Interstate 40 in northern Arizona when something strange, and perhaps tragic, happened to him.

"Williams veered off the interstate at Winslow and sped 40 miles down Arizona Highway 87 to the Blue Ridge Ranger Station. Then, he barreled another 15 miles down a rough Forest Service dirt road, at times menacingly circling campers or running other motorists off the road, before getting stuck in mud near the edge of the Rim.

"He got out of the truck, got on his knees and started talking to a tree. Later, he waved a $20 bill wildly in the air and threw rocks at people who tried to approach him. He pointed to a rock and said he was about to start a fire with it.

"But it wasn't as much what he did as what he said later that got UFO enthusiasts all excited.

One man approached Williams and asked him about his bizarre conduct.

"He said, "They made me do it," said Bruce Cornish, a Coconino County deputy sheriff, adding that Williams didn't explain who 'they' were.

"Then, the 28-year-old truck driver disappeared, leaving behind his semi and two things he was said never to part with: a police scanner and his favorite hat.

"He hasn't been seen for 14 months.

"Some speculate that he lost his way while wandering in the woods and died of exposure. But that's not the type of scenario that has really loosened lips in Rim country.

"Rather, more unworldly explanations have circled about Williams, just as they have about Walton, a Snowflake resident who wrote about his 1975 experiences with alien creatures in a book later made into a movie. Walton said the aliens took him away for almost a week before dropping him off near a phone booth in Heber.

"'This is really kind of a curious incident,' Walton said about Williams' disappearance. 'Of course, we've been having all kinds of weird things up here. Three different people told me they saw a big, orange object hit the ground right before that big forest fire started over near Pinedale last month.'

"In other words: a spaceship crash. The Forest Service blamed a lightning strike for starting the 1,800-acre Cottonwood fire.

"But Charlie Green of Tucson, who says he speaks with more than a modicum of authority after having 16 'alien encounters' during the past 55 years, sees a lot of similarities between the Williams and Walton cases.

"'The whole crazy thing seems to tie in to what happened to Travis (Walton), but the thing that baffles me is that they always bring their victims back within a reasonable time,' said Green, a Tucson insurance salesman and member of a Texas group called the Mutual UFO Network.

"Not that Green doesn't see a reason why Williams wouldn't be taken away for a while. There is a reason, and it has to do with the birds and the bees, he said.

"'He's the right age. This all has to do with pure ol' semen,' Green said. 'They take the semen from the males and ovaries from females, and mix it with alien juice to make a half breed. But I still don't understand why he wasn't brought back.'

"Tom Taylor of Tempe, state director of the UFO network, says he understands. That's because, he said, Williams was never taken by little green men.

"'We had someone research this thoroughly, and that was the conclusion,' he said. 'Just because he said "they" doesn't mean "they" were aliens.'

"Then what happened to Williams?

"Taylor said, 'Only the gods know.'"

This has been a summary of only a small fraction of what has been reported by the mainstream press on the subject of UFOs, aliens, and their attendant phenomena in the past year. To catalog everything written on the topic completely would be an impossible task, at least for this writer and for the space available in this magazine.

But we hope you've enjoyed the preceding overview of news events, public personalities and cultural manifestations of a subject that will probably continue to defy our attempts to understand it for a long time to come, or at least until the UFO occupants decide to come down and give a press conference of their own.

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A candid look at Charles Fort, the father of modern UFOlogy.

I Think We're Property

by D. Douglas Graham

Charles Hoy Fort (1874–1932) is one of those celebrated people you probably know little about. A prolific writer, speculator, and aficionado of curious phenomenon, he lived in penury for most of his remarkable life, and today remains known to a small but vocal legion of fans. Regarding UFOs, and other aspects of the paranormal he once remarked; "I think we're property," and for enigma hunters and researchers, this simple observation pretty much says it all. A careful reading of the works of the many writers who were directly influenced by him, (first and foremost, John Keel, author of *The Mothman Prophesies*, and other fortean classics) leave one with the disturbing impression that a program of exploitation may well be underway, with we humans the apparent exploitees. Fort glimpsed this possibility long before anybody else had even thought of it, let alone committed the idea to paper. He was, in fact, the father of modern UFOlogy, the first person to write on the phenomenon of "flaps," and was both founder and first debunker of the now-waning, ET Hypothesis.

Fort spent much of his life in libraries, collecting allegedly true reports from the newspapers and scientific journals of his day. The result were four controversial books that read like road maps to the Twilight Zone. Then as now, weird things fell from the sky, people disappeared or reappeared from nowhere,

Journalist Charles Hoy Fort wrote of strange phenomena many years before the first modern day sighting of a UFO by pilot Kenneth Arnold.

unknown entities confronted wear travelers on country roads, strange cra buzzed across the firmament, and un suspecting persons were abducted b aliens, harassed by midnight visitors or placed under siege by battalions o poltergeists. Fort believed a commo thread ran through these phenomenon and indeed, through unexplained phe nomenon in general.

Though his tone was ironic, at time almost tongue-in-cheek, his impatienc with orthodox science came out lou and clear. While Fort remained aloo from belief, he accepted everything embracing the attitude of the true seeke after knowledge. Science, he said, di no such thing, preferring instead to frame phenomenon within a narrow par adigm instead of allowing it to speak for itself. Science's knee-jerk response to "unacceptable" evidence was dismissal Fort charged, a practice he condemned as intellectual heresy.

In his own time, Fort was champ oned by a handful of writers and intel lectuals, most of whose literary work survive his own. Nevertheless, hi shadow falls over much of our popula and intellectual culture. The word "fortean" and "forteana" are both de rived from his name, though when the

Now deceased for more than half a century, Fort still inspires writers, researchers, and even TV shows such as The X Files.

are used today it is usually in the context of some curious event, and rarely in reference to Fort himself. Modern speculative and science fiction, particularly the type featured on shows like the *Twilight Zone,* frequently invoke fortean themes. The popular *X-Files* television program is pure forteana. In fact the words "fortean," and "forteana" often find their way to the script.

The "Grand Tour"

Charles Fort was born in Albany, New York, exactly nine years after the Civil War. His parents had been prosperous Netherlanders, and had carried all the Bourgeois virtues with them to the New World. Fort's father was a firm believer in corporeal punishment which he dispensed to his son whenever the opportunity presented itself. Fort's anti-authoritarianism probably surfaced in childhood, and some biographers believe it was this attitude that eventually liberated his thinking.

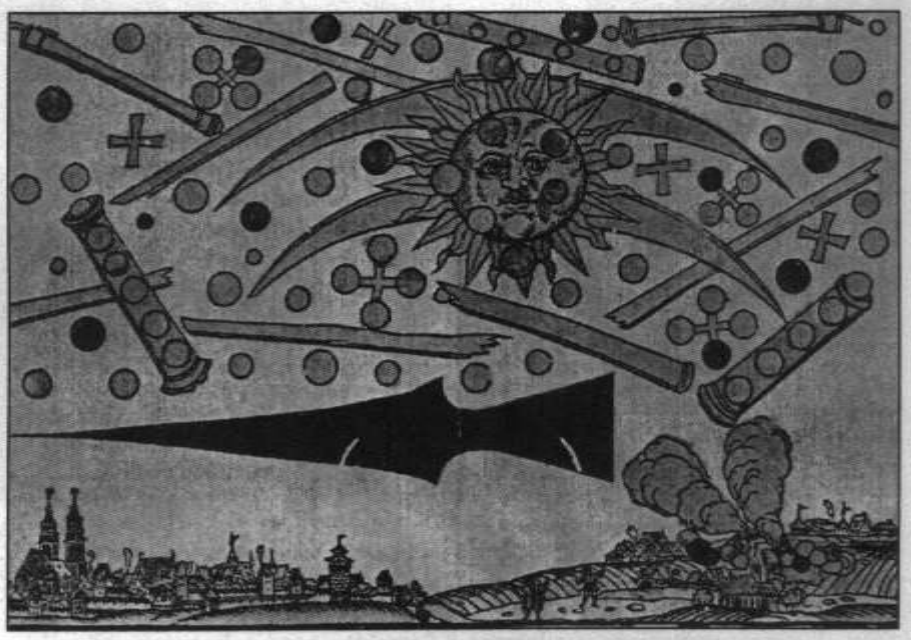
At 18 young Charles decided he'd had enough of Albany, and set off to explore the world. Like some proto-hippy he literally hitch-hiked around the planet, visiting Europe, New Orleans, parts of Canada, and South Africa in the process. At the end of this two-year junket, Fort returned to his native New York. Physically a wreck, he met an English girl named Anna Filing. Anna was a practical, unimaginative woman, who shared none of Charles's curious predilections. In spite of that, she nursed the young traveler back to health, married him, and remained attached to him for life. Considering how very unlike these two people were, the marriage of Anna and Charles Fort is itself a fortean mystery.

The couple settled in New York City, where Fort embarked on an ill-fated writing career. His literary output was enormous. He hammered out scads of feature articles for the New York press, wrote dozens of humorous short stories, and even published a novel, *The Outcast Manufacturers,* which failed to bear fruit.

Despite Herculean efforts, success remained elusive, and the Forts' puny income forced them to take up residence in a series of seedy apartments. When Charles couldn't sell his work, which was often, he took to the streets, accepting odd jobs to make ends meet. Fortunately, the marriage produced no offspring.

It was during this time that Fort's literary ambitions changed. He became excessively interested in strange phenomena, and began to haunt the public libraries in search of documented evidence. He spent hours searching through newspapers and scientific journals for useful or intriguing anecdotes. He took notes in a shorthand of his own design. The notes were recorded on little scraps of paper, and carefully stowed away in shoe boxes deep in the recesses of his dingy rooms.

Though this research method may strike some as extremely haphazard, it



Turning the pages of yellow and dusty tomes from ages past, Ford discovered that many old illustrations—such as this old woodcut from the Zurich Central Library—showed what appeared to be weird configurations in the heavens, which we could only describe as a "wondrous" phenomenon.

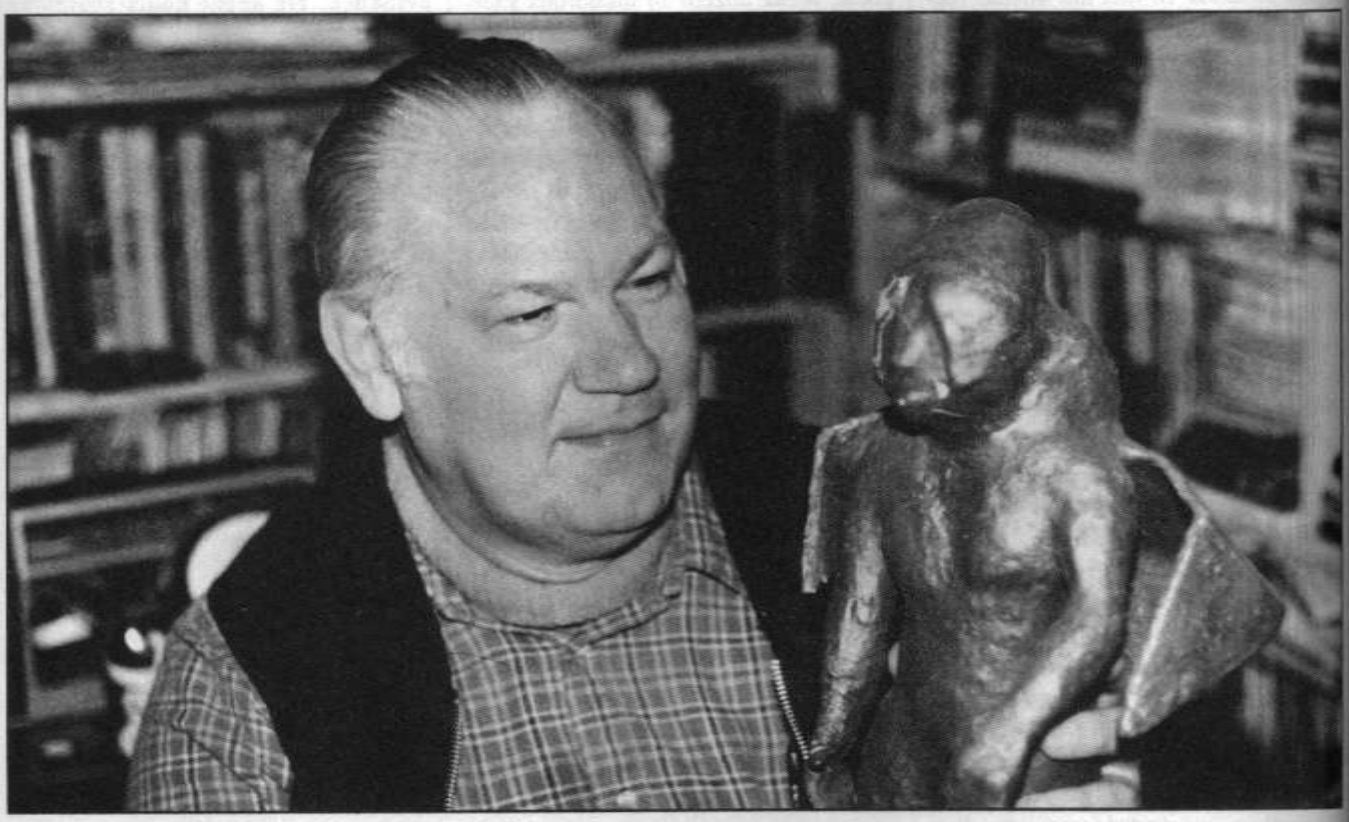
Weird things fell from the sky, people disappeared or reappeared from nowhere, unknown entities confronted weary travelers on country roads, strange craft buzzed across the firmament, and unsuspecting persons were abducted by aliens, harassed by midnight visitors, or placed under siege by battalions of poltergeists.

proved remarkably effective, as most of Fort's organizing work was going on in his head. (Just think what he could have done with a computer.) Fort christened this enterprise, "The Grand Tour," and by the time he turned 23, he'd amassed 25,000 bits of fascinating information which ran the gamut of the paranormal field from bleeding icons, to spontaneous human combustions, to deluges of live fish, and frogs from cloudless skies.

Though he had accumulated enough data to fill several books, Fort celebrated his birthday by burning all 25,000 of his notes, complaining that "They were not what I wanted." He got back to work immediately, and on the second attempt succeeded in finding the kind of information he was looking for in the first place. The data was recorded in the usual way, and this time there was even more of it to trudge through. Somehow, two books emerged from the slush pile. Fort named these brain-children, *X* and *Y*.

Unpublished, *X* and *Y* were eventually consigned to the flames by their dissatisfied author. But like much of Fort's work, the books were oddly anticipatory. In *X*, Fort tried to demonstrate that human history and culture had been controlled by a superior Martian civilization. This was a pretty wild idea back in 1915, the year the book was written, but nearly half a century later when Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke came up with essentially the same concept for *2001 a Space Odyssey*, the public ate it up.

The manuscript Fort called *Y* was based on another outrageous premise,



One of America's top Fortean researchers today is New York City's John A. Keel author of such books as *Operation Trojan Horse*. Here he can be seen with a replica of the famous winged Mothman creature that terrorized dozens of witnesses in West Virginia and Ohio several decades ago. (Photo by Tim Beckley).

Shaver was a semi-literate, Pennsylvania steel worker who was convinced that a race of subterranean dwarves were working behind the scenes to destroy human civilization. These "Deros," (an abbreviated form of Detrimental Robots) became the antagonists in what would eventually be known as "The Shaver Mystery."

that a sinister, unknown civilization that existed at the South Pole, was working to disrupt the course of human progress. Here again, Fort had presented an idea before its time. In the 1930's, Ray Palmer, the P.T. Barnum of pulp literature, promoter of *Amazing Stories,* and creator of *Fate Magazine,* had started publishing the correspondence of one Richard Shaver. Shaver was a semi-literate, Pennsylvania steel worker who was convinced that a race of subterranean dwarves were working behind the scenes to destroy human civilization. These "Deros," (an abbreviated form of Detrimental Robots) became the antagonists in what would eventually be known as "The Shaver Mystery."

Palmer promoted the "Mystery" in letter and literary form in *Amazing Stories.* Readers responded enthusiastically, and many claimed to have had their own encounters with the dastardly Deros. Shaver, meanwhile, achieved Andy Warhol celebrity status. He briefly became a kind of pulp fiction poster child, then submerged quietly into total obscurity.

Pay Dirt

When an uncle died and left him a substantial inheritance, Fort realized that his monetary woes were finally at an end. Other troubles remained, however. So far, the "Grand Tour" had taken him no farther then the fireplace, and he still desperately wanted his ideas to see print.

A third attempt hit pay dirt. *The Book Of The Damned* was published in 1919, in which the reader was invited to sample a weird cornucopia of improbable events, subjects deemed anathema by science. Fort's reply to scientific squeamishness was to present it with monstrosities. Science preferred to weigh and measure its way to its version of "Truth," he said, and had neither the time nor the inclination to consider the artifacts left behind by ancient astronauts, or consider the widely-reported sightings of phantom airships, sea and lake monsters, and falls of red rain, and raw meat.

Though the *Damned* would eventually become an underground hit, it was not received by the publishing world with open arms. Fort was lucky to have a champion in the person of Theodore Dreiser, the best-selling author who had published many of Fort's short stories while working as an editor at *Smith's Magazine.* Dreiser had read both *X* and *Y,* and was completely enthralled by them, so when the *Damned* came along he was determined to save it from Fort's fireplace. He took the manuscript to his publisher, Horace Liverlight, insisting that he run it. When Liverlight balked, Dreiser replied, "Publish Fort, or lose me."

When the *Damned* debuted, artists, revolutionaries, and intellectuals went mad for it, but as such folks usually exist in small numbers, and are often poor to boot, the book didn't make much money. In all fairness it must be admitted that Fort is exceedingly difficult to read. He wrote in a curious stream of consciousness style, a kind of prose poetry the Beat Poets might have used had they been around at the turn of the century. The point is that Charles Fort is not for everybody, as illustrated by this opening salvo of the *Book Of The Damned.*

A procession of the damned.

"By the damned, I mean the excluded.

"We shall have a procession of data that science has excluded.

"Battalions of the accursed, captained by pallid data that I have exhumed, will march. You'll read them—or they'll march. Some of them livid, and some of them fiery, and some of them roton."

This is mighty heady stuff, but for those who take the trouble to travel it, Fort's work is a labyrinth that leads to buried treasure. His observations on the deliberate blindness of science, for example, are pure gold. In his works, Fort compared science to a car traveling on a modern highway through thick jungle. The driver keeps his eyes in front of him, immune to the fascinating countryside rushing past the vehicle. All around are Martian landscapes, and exotic plant and animal forms, but all our motorist has eyes for is the thin yellow line in the middle of the pavement.

The modern publishing industry is more mercenary then in years past. Some books are scrapped for little or no reason, and many are deliberately scuttled for the sake of a tax break. In more forgiving periods a book afflicted with sluggish sales might remain on the shelves almost indefinitely. So it was the *Damned.* A full year after the book hit the street, the Forts were still pinching pennies. Fort fell into an interminable depression and burned the rest of his notes. By this time they numbered over 40,000.

Fort pulled up stakes and moved to London where he found a country much more amenable to his ideas than his own had been. Even today he is far better known in Britain than in the U.S. This is a fairly curious state of affairs since most Americans see themselves as more open-minded than other peoples. In reality, ours is a rather conservative country, and this feature of our national character is partially borne out by the fact that the world's premier fortean magazine,

In his works, Fort compared science to a car traveling on a modern highway through thick jungle. The driver keeps his eyes in front of him, immune to the fascinating countryside rushing past the vehicle. All around are Martian landscapes, and exotic plant and animal forms, but all our motorist has eyes for is the thin yellow line in the middle of the pavement.

Fortean Times, is published in London, instead of Albany or Manhattan.

Fort found a second home among the stacks at the British Museum. Here was amassed information on every conceivable subject from every period of human history. Immersing himself in it, Fort must have felt as though he'd stumbled on the lost library of Alexandria. His depression lifted, and soon the Grand Tour took a great leap forward.

The *Fortean Times* is Britain's leading journal on the strange and unknown. It is named after Charles Fort.

New concepts crept into his consciousness. He became convinced, for example, that man would one day travel the stars, and often joined the other ravers at the Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park to expound on this idea. His obsession with space travel, and with outer space in general inspired him to write his second book, *New Lands. Lands* was intended to steal the wind from the sails of the science of astronomy, which Fort considered both pompous and self-deluded. Unfortunately, the work was laid low by the author's impenetrable prose style.

"Lands in the sky—"

"That there are nearby—

"That they do not move.

"I take for a principal that all being is the infinitely serial, and that whatever has been will, with differences of particulars, be again—

"The last quarter of the Fifteenth century-land to the west!

"This first quarter of the Twentieth century—we shall have revelation."

Yet even here, were omens and auguries. In *Lands,* Fort backed up his indictment against astronomers with evidence of aerial anomalies, data which the astronomers had elected to ignore. There was, for example, the mystery of "skyquakes," tremendous explosions originating literally out of the blue that have been with us since time eternal.

Fort also introduced the notion that somewhere beyond the sky there might a cosmic junk yard, a new land, if you will, from which animals, pillars of stone, and huge chunks of ice, are sometimes dumped on us. As any tabloid reporter will attest, such deluges do occur with regularity all across planet Earth. Murderous chunks of cosmic ice, and lots of other stuff, does occasionally come crashing down from on high smashing through roof tops, destroying furniture, sometimes even killing or maiming people in their path.

Fort returned to the U.S. in 192 where the last two books, *Lo* and *Wi Talents* were both completed and pu lished. The books dealt chiefly with t mysteries of psychic phenomenon. T last, *(Wild Talents)* was publishe posthumously.

The world has changed enormously since Fort's time. No longer do we summarily dismiss things, simply because they don't make sense. Today even scientists look seriously at UFOs and paranormal phenomenon, to the chagrin of the institutions that employ them.

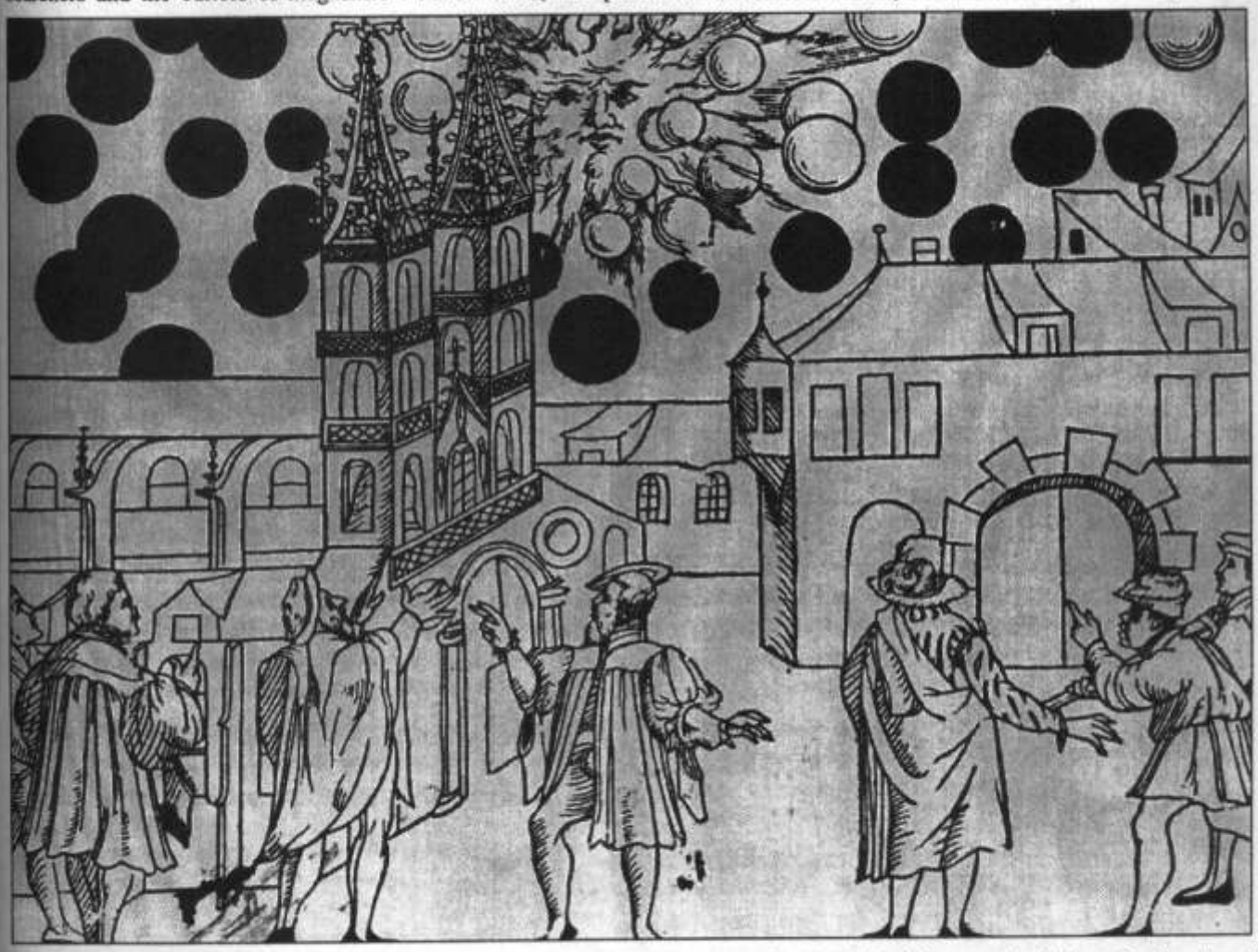
Fort was in his fifties by this time and suffering from ill-health. A few weeks after the publication of *Wild Talents* in 1932, he checked into the hospital and quickly deteriorated. Still a fastidious note-taker, he carefully documented the process of his own decline. The last entry read simply; "Difficulty shaving. Gaunt places in face."

Though dead more than half a century, Charles Fort still inspires writers, researchers and the editors of magazines that borrow from his name. But as we have seen, his impact was far greater than this. His hand can be seen in everything from pop fiction to television and movies.

The world has changed enormously since Fort's time. No longer do we summarily dismiss things, simply because they don't make sense. Today even scientists look seriously at UFOs and paranormal phenomenon, to the chagrin of the institutions that employ them. Meanwhile, the phenomenon itself, pariah in earlier times, has suddenly become fashionable with the public. Modern people watch the skies, hoping against hope that something extraordinary is up there.

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Poltergeists, skyquakes, and UFOs are with us still, and in form and behavior today's anomalies seem no different than yesterday's.

Planet Earth remains, and will likely always be, an extremely curious place.



The sun appears to be surrounded by many globes of brilliance as depicted in this woodcut from Switzerland circa 1566.

During the last several months, one researcher has made the monumental discovery that UFOs are being photographed by our government's high altitude satellites.

Mystery of the "Fast Walkers"

by Philip J. Imbrogno

If you saw the movie *Independence Day* you will remember the scene in which a strange beeping tone was received on earth-based satellite equipment. This beeping was a relayed communication from an alien mother ship that was using our satellites to communicate with its war ships stationed across the world over every major city. Although the movie was a combination of fact and fantasy, there really is Area 51, and *yes* someone out there is using and tampering with our satellites. For years now the government has been receiving images of unknown objects in space that approached our satellites. They have also received strange Morse code transmissions that seem to be coming from a point just beyond the moon and bounced off our satellites to some unknown point on Earth. Is there some alien intelligence using our satellites, and if so for what purpose? For example, in 1976 the Lamont-Doherty Observatory (located in northern New Jersey) picked up a strange coded tone on a wide frequency band with most of their equipment. These signals were received at the same time that UFOs were spotted within a ten miles radius of that area. It was found that the signals did not originate from Earth, but from somewhere in space and directed to the area where the UFOs were. Was someone in orbit be

On the screen were two triangular shaped objects that were very close to the satellite. One object was between Florida and South America, while the other was just off the coast of Peru in the South Pacific. The image was obtained in infrared by a process called APT (Automatic Picture Transmission).

yond our solar system sending instructions to their craft in this area?

Not only have strange signals been received and strange images recorded in photographic memory banks, our satellites have also vanished for no apparent reason. Each orbiting space vehicle is equipped with a radio transmitter that sends out a signal at a number of frequencies. These signals not only send valuable information to Earth but they also transmit a coded radio ID telling earth stations what satellite it is. There are several types of satellites now in orbit, but the actual number is somewhere over 2000. Most of them are communication while the rest are scientific and military.

For the most part satellite transmissions are coded and it is just about impossible to image 90 of them. However, with today's electronic technology it is possible to obtain images of our planet and the space around it in your home using just a home computer and the proper equipment. The easiest satellites to image are the scientific ones. Of these the

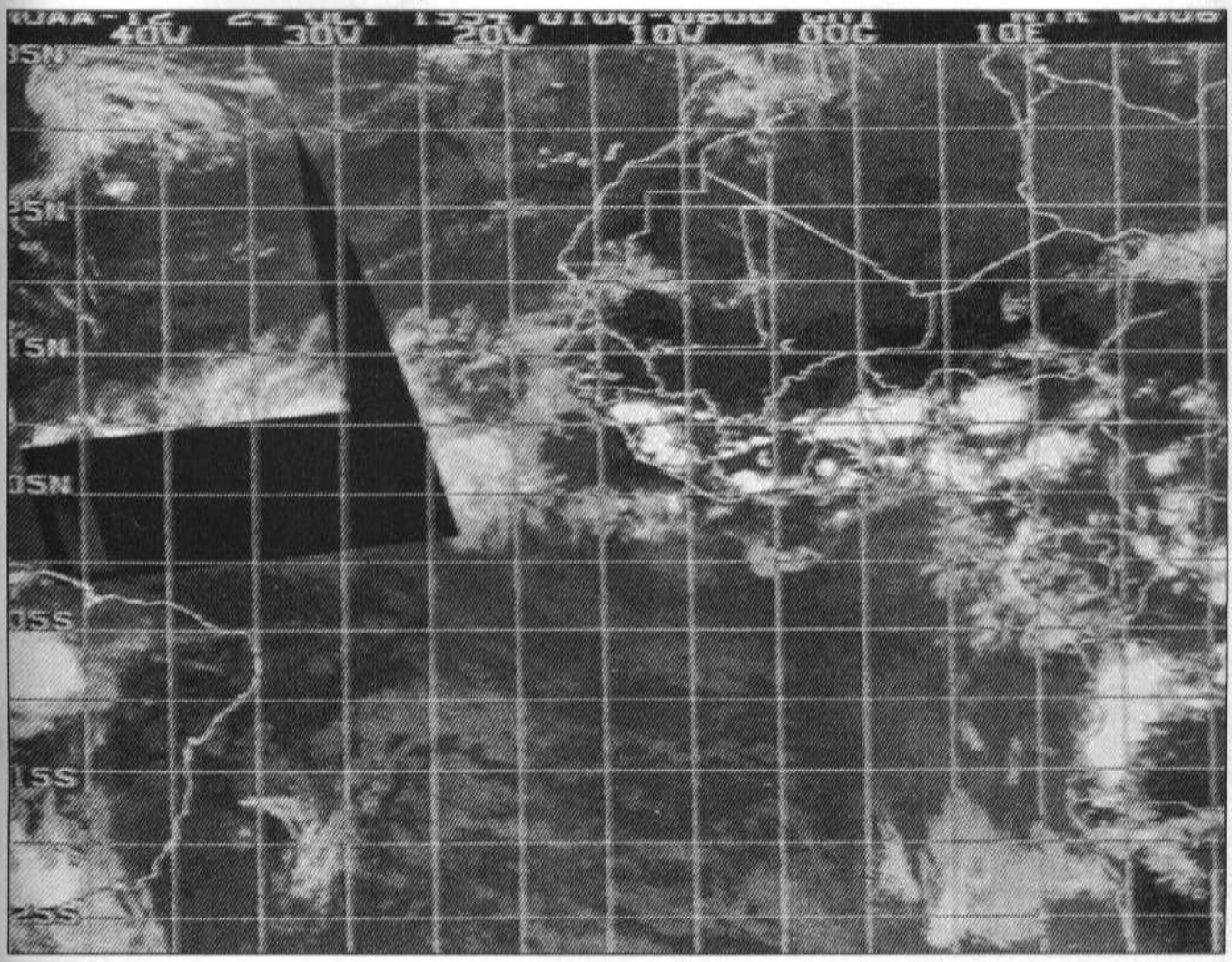


IMAGE ONE: Taken on October 24, 1994, the satellite was moving at 10,000 miles per hour over the Atlantic Ocean when its infrared camera detected a huge triangular object nearly perfect in geometric shape.

Scientists have seen the moon with weather satellites in the past, but it is such a rare occasion that when it takes place the moon is barely visible. Furthermore the UFO is much too high in latitude and when the image was showed to scientists at NOAA, they were perplexed and wondered what it was. If it is the moon they then theorized, what is it doing there and why is it so prominent? The mystery deepened.

meteorological satellites are a good choice. With very little investment it is possible to obtain images of at least 10 different orbiting satellites belonging to the United States and various European countries. These weather satellites have been used for many years and occasionally something strange is picked up by them—something that can only be an "unknown object" in space.

In 1991, I set up such a station and have obtained thousands of images of our planet from space. The satellites that I have tapped into are in two basic classes: the Geostationary and polar orbiting. The Geostationary are in a fixed position around the Earth at a distance of 24,800 miles and circle our planet at

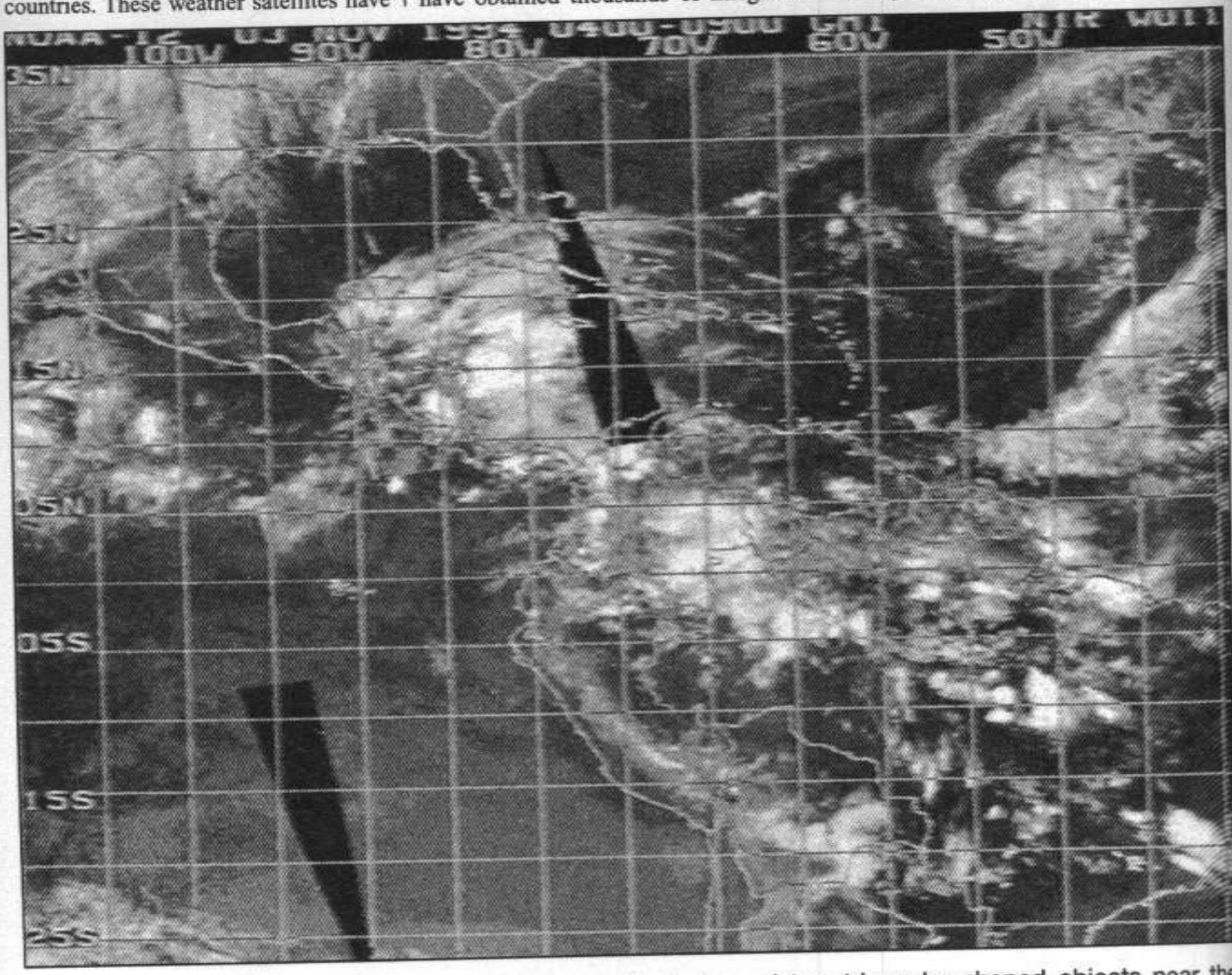


IMAGE TWO: On November 3, 1994, the data received showed two triangular shaped objects near the weather satellite somewhere between Florida and South America.

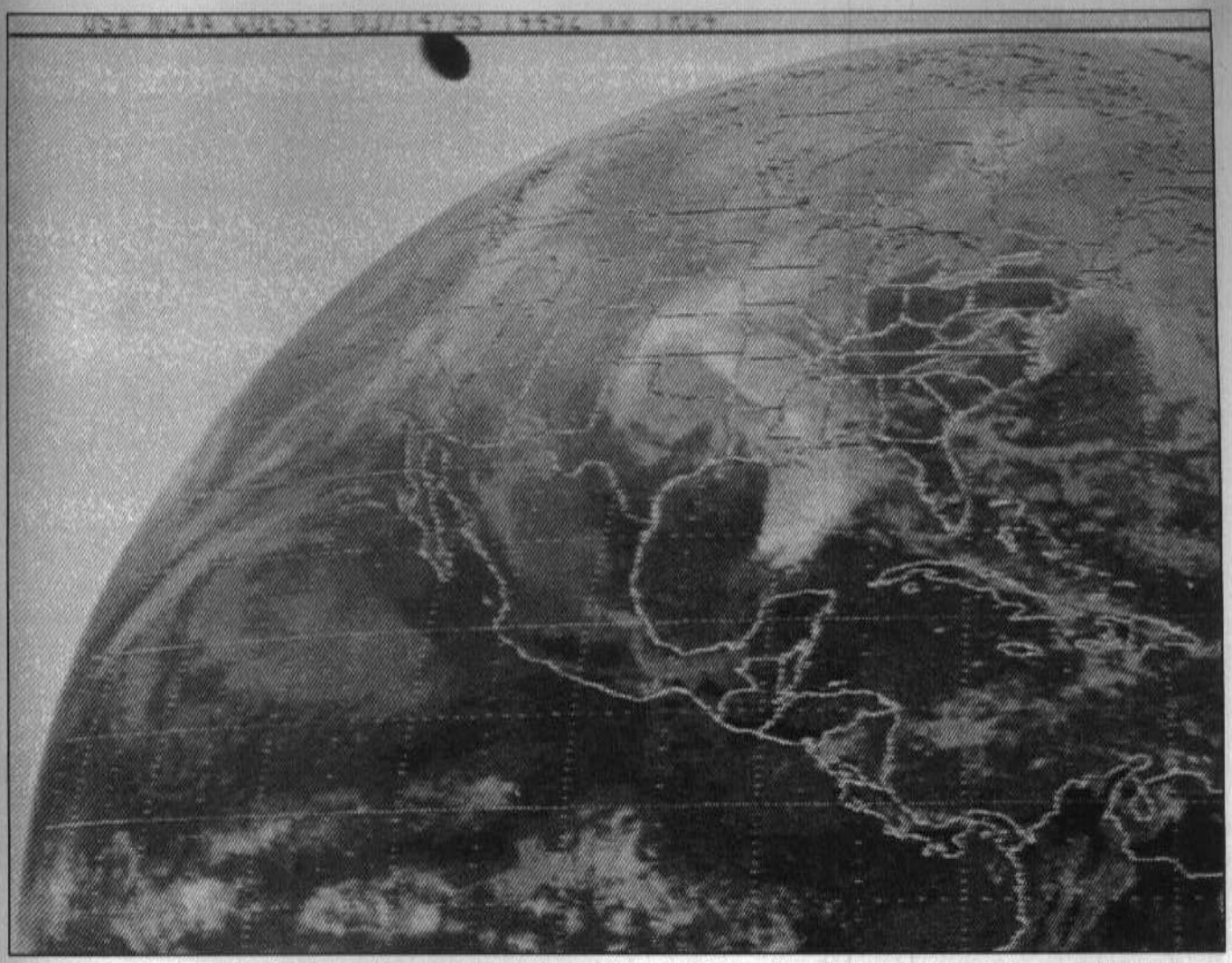


IMAGE THREE: A disk-like object glowing almost "red hot" appears during a storm in the southwest.

the same speed as Earth so they appear to stay fixed in space. The polar orbiting class circle Earth from north to south or from south to north at an altitude between 400 and 1200 miles above the surface of the earth and usually pass directly over an area once a day. Both satellites transmit very little power, less than 5 watts. Despite their low power one can still get a clear sharp image of the Earth from space.

The first time I received something strange was on October 24 1994. The satellite was called NOAA 12, a polar orbiting satellite (Image One) at about 800 miles up. The satellite moving at a speed of over 10,000 miles an hour and was passing over the Atlantic Ocean between Africa and Brazil. The image was an infrared one and clearly showed the temperature difference in the air, clouds and the ocean currents. On the image was a triangular object which was too perfect in geometric shape. What ever it was it was huge and passed directly under the satellite blocking out a section of the ground. There was no doubt it was imaged below the satellite since the latitude and longitude grids were superimposed over the UFO.

As I studied the image I thought that it was strange since here was a triangular unknown, a shape that I have become very familiar with over the past 15years in the New York area. For those of you who are new to the UFO field, since 1983, I have been investigating a series of complex UFO sightings that have taken place in the Hudson Valley area of New York. These sightings are documented in my book *Night Siege—The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings,* which was Co-authored with Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Bob Pratt. *Night Siege* is currently out of print, but will be re-released in 1997 with three new chapters.

As I looked at the image, I wondered how large it was and judging by the darkness of its color it was giving off a considerable amount of energy. I decided at that time just to sit on the picture and monitor the system more closely to see what came in. This was not an easy task since when the system is in full operation, I can receive several hundred images in a 24 hour period. The next strange image of an unknown in space would not arrive until November 3, 1994.

It happened at about 9:00 o'clock in the morning. I had already been imaging all night and was going through over 150 files of satellite images from all parts of the world. As I watched the screen the familiar beeping sound of a United States NOAA polar orbiter began to come in on the receiver. I quickly turned to the computer satellite tracking program to see what NOAA space vehi-

The images speak for themselves, something's being picked up by our satellites. There have been a number of satellites that have mysteriously disappeared in space. One such ill fated space orbiter was NOAA 13 which vanished from orbit in 1995.

cle it was. The computer identified the signal as belonging to NOAA 12, a polar orbiting satellite that travels from north to south at an altitude of about 420 miles. As the image came in (approx. image speed for this type of satellite is 120 lines per minutes, this means that to get a full image it takes about two minutes because the satellite is traveling so fast and is covering a vast distance) it was clear that once again something highly unusual was being picked up (see Image Two).

On the screen were two triangular shaped objects that were very close to the satellite. One object was between Florida and South America, while the other was just off the coast of Peru in the South Pacific. The image was obtained in infrared by a process called APT (Automatic Picture Transmission), a real time image of that section of our planet from space. Once again the infrared cameras were used and the objects appeared "very hot" and were giving off large amounts of heat energy. Also, Image One the latitude and longitude grid was over the two unknowns indicating that they were below the satellite and not som type of bizarre imaging flaw. The objec were once again too geometric and th did not pop up on a regular basis, ea image so far was the result of hu dreds of hours of satellite reception a imaging. Once again no explanation. must make a note that it would be a most impossible to provide high resol tion of something that is moving ve quickly. Although in Images One a Two we can make out the basic shape the UFO, it is almost impossible to s its true shape and structure since we a

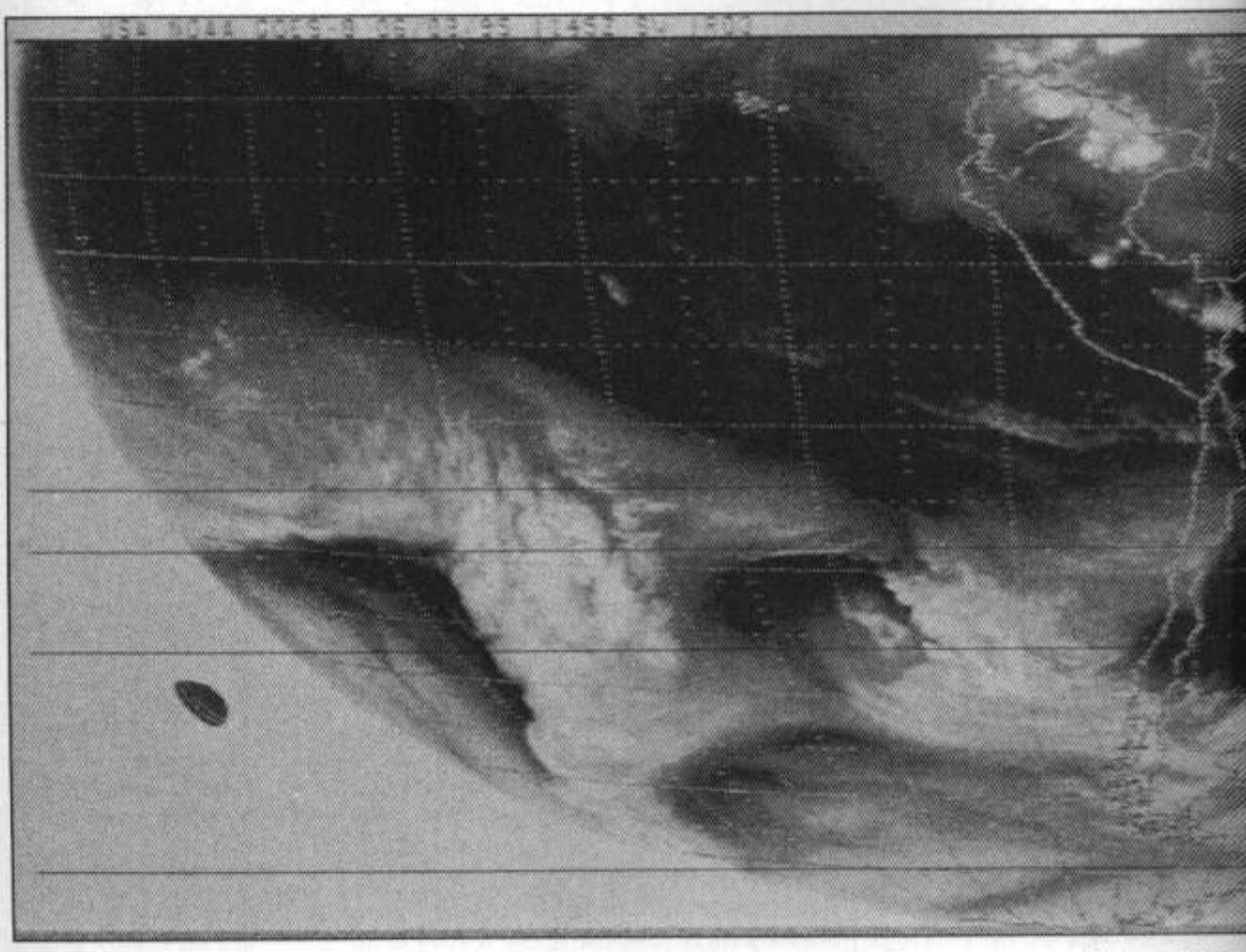


IMAGE FOUR: A typical "flying saucer" emerged in this scan taken by a U.S. weather satellite on 6/8/95.

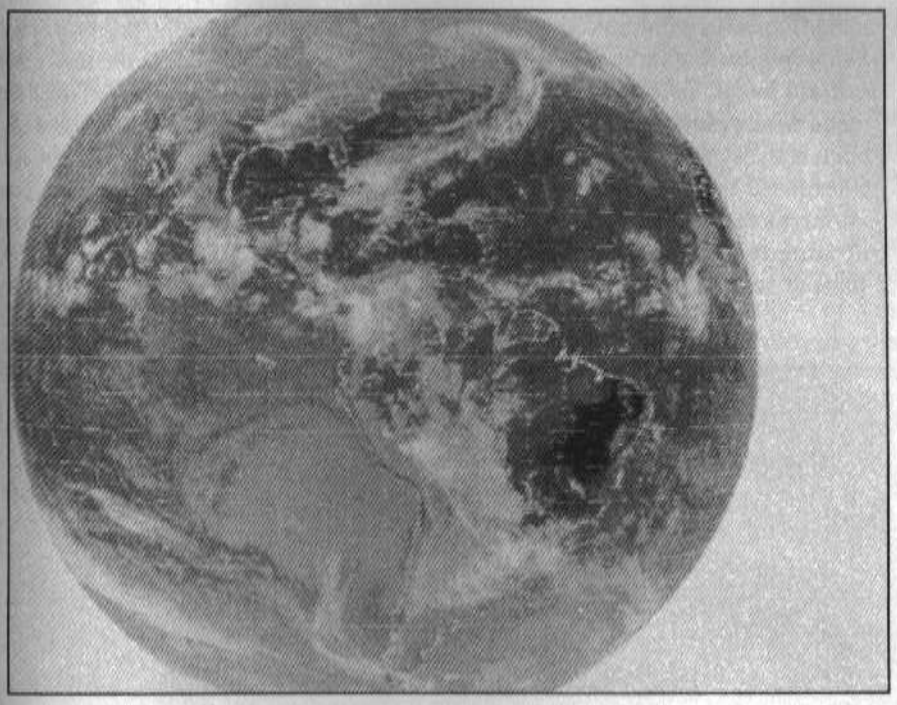
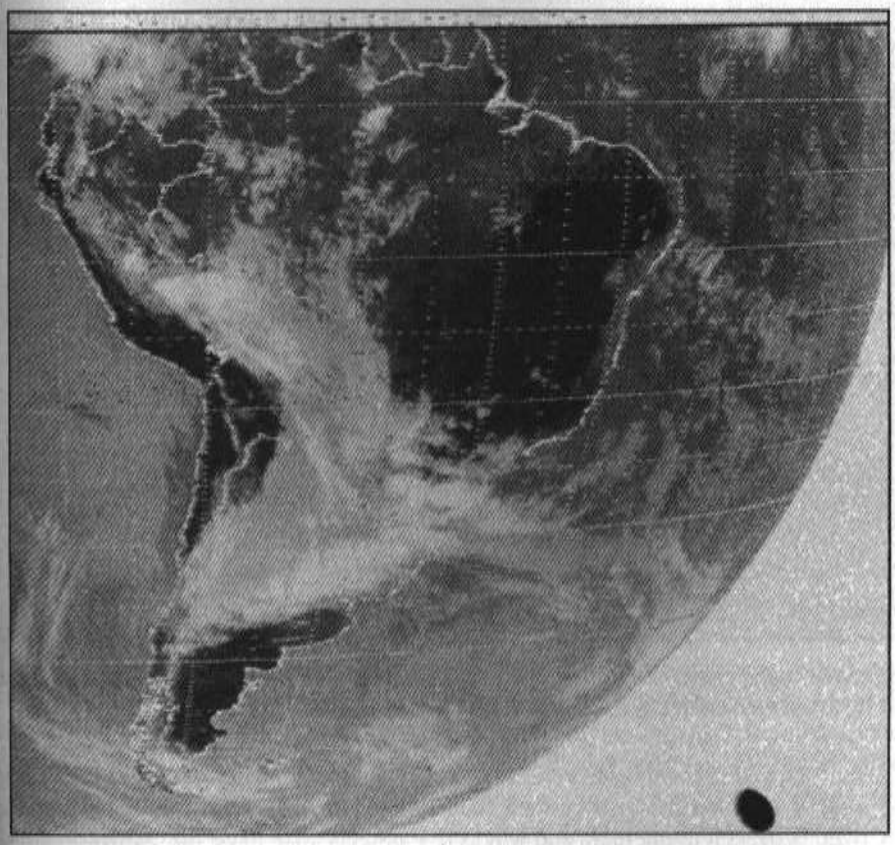


IMAGE FIVE (above) & SIX (below): Taken within a short while of each other, the weather probe caught the Earth in the background first without the UFO and then with a strange disk-like object in its frame.



looking at a two dimensional image. The objects may have very small or large widths, but one thing is certain that in both cases they are several miles below the satellite and this makes them objects that are quite large.

I then showed the two pictures to an associate of mine who is a scientist with a strong background in the imaging system aboard a number of different types of satellites. He agreed that the shapes where strange and not consistent with what is commonly called "missing data." Missing data is when something goes wrong and for some reason or another, part of the image is missing so that section of the image is void of resolution. I have seen this before in a number of satellites and it is a common occurrence, especially with the polar orbiting satellites. To me, it did not look like a flaw in the transmission since in the past such occurrences were white, and since the satellite images a line at a time the missing data would appear in strips. The data was missing a light, but something under the satellite blocked out that section of Earth as it passed over. My associate then told me (being a conservative scientist) that he would need a great deal more data before he could issue a judgement. He added that "It would be nice if you could image something that is more spherical in shape, not over the earth, but in space, then the image can be studied in greater detail." I agreed, but really felt that the chance of getting something like that was very remote since it took hundreds and hundreds of images to get just these first two.

Nothing strange was picked up for quite some time, and for the most part I would leave the system on automatic and then check the files when the hard drive would get too full up since each image takes a quarter of a megabyte of memory. On March 15, I went though the images that were received on March 14 and after 75 files I almost became discouraged and was ready to erase the entire file when I had a strong feeling to check a couple more files.

The next file showed an infrared image from GOES 8 taken on March 14J1995 at 1445 GMT (9:45 AM East Coast time) The channel image was number four which meant that it was a temperature reading of the surface and cloud cover. One could easily see a major storm brewing in the southwest. In the right hand corner (see Image Three) was a disk-like object that was glowing almost red hot since it was very dark in contrast to the very cold space surrounding it. This object was moving out of the frame and when the next image of that area came in ten minutes later, the UFO was no longer there. The system had picked up its first circular anomaly.

I had the frame color enhanced and it

showed something interesting. As you got further from the disk the colors would change from a very hot one to cooler ones. This is what one would expect if the UFO was radiating heat since the further you moved from the heat source the colder it would get. I showed the image around to a number of people involved in technical and scientific fields and everyone seemed quite amazed. My satellite imaging friend was interested, but for some reason he wanted nothing to do with it. He proposed a theory that it was a freak photograph of the moon and for some reason the satellite darkened it. He had never seen an image like this before or did he ever hear of what he proposed. The moon is not an infrared source so it is almost impossible for it to show up on a infrared image. Scientists have seen the moon with weather satellites in the past, but it is such a rare occasion that when it takes place the moon is barely visible. Furthermore the UFO is much too high in latitude and when the image was showed to scientists at NOAA, they were perplexed and wondered what it was. If it is the moon they then theorized, what is it doing there and why is it so prominent? The mystery deepened.

This new image put new energy into my task and offered evidence that UFOs are, in fact orbiting our planet and darting in and out of our atmosphere. It would seem that if they came close to a satellite a permanent photographic record could be made. At the time I was accessing a small number of satellites with low to moderate resolution capabilities. I wondered what the government had in their possession and how long they have been keeping a record. I had heard that the NORAD defense radar net which is located in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado had been trac ing UFOs for years. They had track objects that have the ability to stre across the entire country in a matter minutes. These objects are commor referred to as "Fast Walkers" and it is accepted fact by military personnel t they are vehicles of alien origin, but one really wants to talk about them.

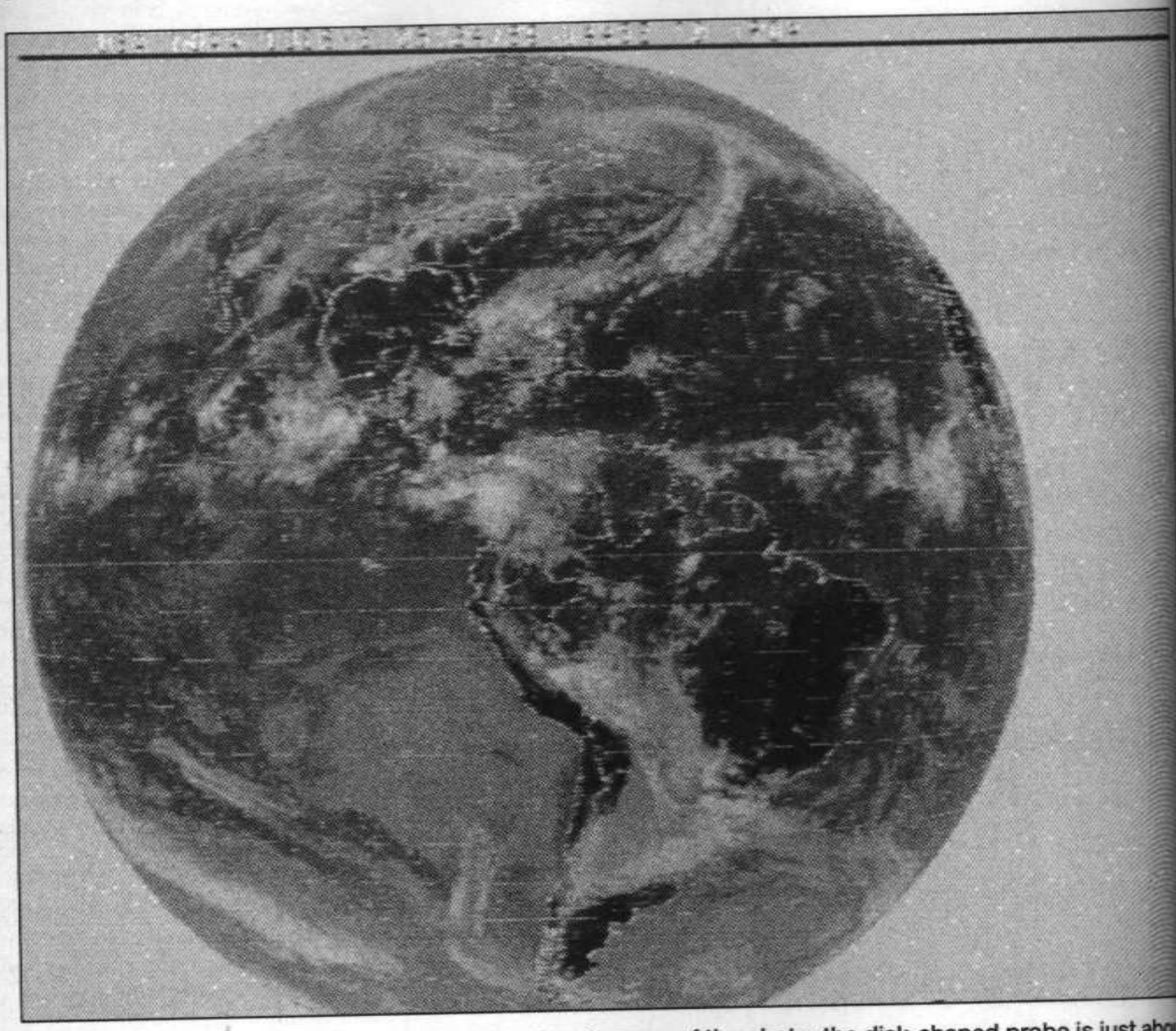


IMAGE SEVEN: Barely visible in the lower right hand corner of the photo, the disk-shaped probe is just abo out of frame, but indications are that it had been circling near the satellite for sometime.

The next image of a UFO was to be the most perplexing to date. On the morning of June 8, 1995, at 1145 Greenwich Mean Time (7:45 AM), I was sitting at the console of the station watching an image slowly being formed on the screen. I was quite surprised to see a disk-like object in the lower screen near the western part of the Pacific Ocean. What ever it was it looked like a classic disk-shaped UFO and it seemed to have multiple layers or portals. I thought at first that some one was playing some type of cosmic joke on me, but then realized this was a real solid object which was hovering thousands of miles above the surface of Earth. (see Image Four). Once again the image was in infrared, from GOES 8 and the data came on channel three.

This image must have been a great deal closer to the satellite since the resolution was much better that the previous pictures. This object definitely showed some type of structure. I decided to send a copy of the image to NOAA. I was contacted by an imaging scientist whose official title was "Director of Analyzing Anomalies." I thought the title was strange since the government officially stated that such objects do not exist, then why have someone paid on the staff to be in charge of handling this type of thing. This could only mean that they did in fact receive UFO images in the past and were keeping a record of them. They had no knowledge of the June 8 image and had to go into their own files to find it. When they did, they were puzzled as to what the image represented, and the lines perplexed them even more. I continued a dialog with NOAA for several months on this matter when they suddenly would not comment on the image anymore. To this day as far as I know they have failed to identify the strange disk-like object imaged from GOES 8.

Needless to say, I made sure the system was on every day in the hope of capturing something new, but then something highly unusual took place. Many of the images were being blocked out. Was it because NOAA underestimated what amateur operators could accomplish so they started blacking out questionable images? Or was it the alien intelligence doing it?

Next came a very long dry spell and then the next anomalies image was to be received on September 24 1996. This time I was able to expand the memory of the computer and save multiple frames. Image Five shows an infrared image from GOES 8. It is a full disk shot that was taken at 9:33 AM East Coast Time. there is no UFO in the image. Image Six shows the tip of South America and the Atlantic Ocean at 12:01. In the frame is a very hot disk like object. Image Seven was obtained at 12:17 PM and once again it is of the full disk type showing the entire western hemisphere. The UFO is in the bottom of the frame, just about out of view from the GOES 8 camera. This means that the object was slowly moving. The next image, number Eight, is a visible light one from channel one. The image was obtained at 12:25 PM and it barely shows the disk in the corner of the photograph. The object once again has moved and it is a strong infrared source, this is why it hardly shows up using ordinary light. Some years ago I received a letter from a French scientist who theorized that the reason why most UFO photographs are blurry is because they emit a great deal of infrared energy. Our standard camera lens are set to visible light so infrared will fall short of the focal plane resulting in a blurry image. The satellite images proved that he was right in his assumption that UFOs are strong infrared emitters.

The images speak for themselves, something's being picked up by our satellites. There have been a number of satellites that have mysteriously disappeared in space. One such ill fated space orbiter was NOAA 13 which vanished from orbit in 1995. The Chinese have also lost two satellites, Feyung I and II. These satellites vanished as mysteriously as the United States NOAA polar orbiter. The Russians have lost a total of three that we know of. Once again these objects did not burn up in the atmosphere, they just vanished in space. Also, the United States and Russia have lost more than one unmanned probe to Mars. Why did they disappear? No one has come up with a suitable explanation.

I enjoy hearing from readers. If you would like to contact me to get more information on the satellite system above you can reach me at P.O. Box 4218 Greenwich, Ct 06831. Much of my work is documented in my book *Night Siege—The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings*, which I co-authored with Dr., J Allen Hynek and Bob Pratt. *Night Siege* is being republished in 1997 with three new chapters and new visual material. I also have a new book scheduled for publication in October 1997. It is called *Contact: Aliens and Humans. Contact* was co-authored with paranormal researcher Marianne Horrigan. ■

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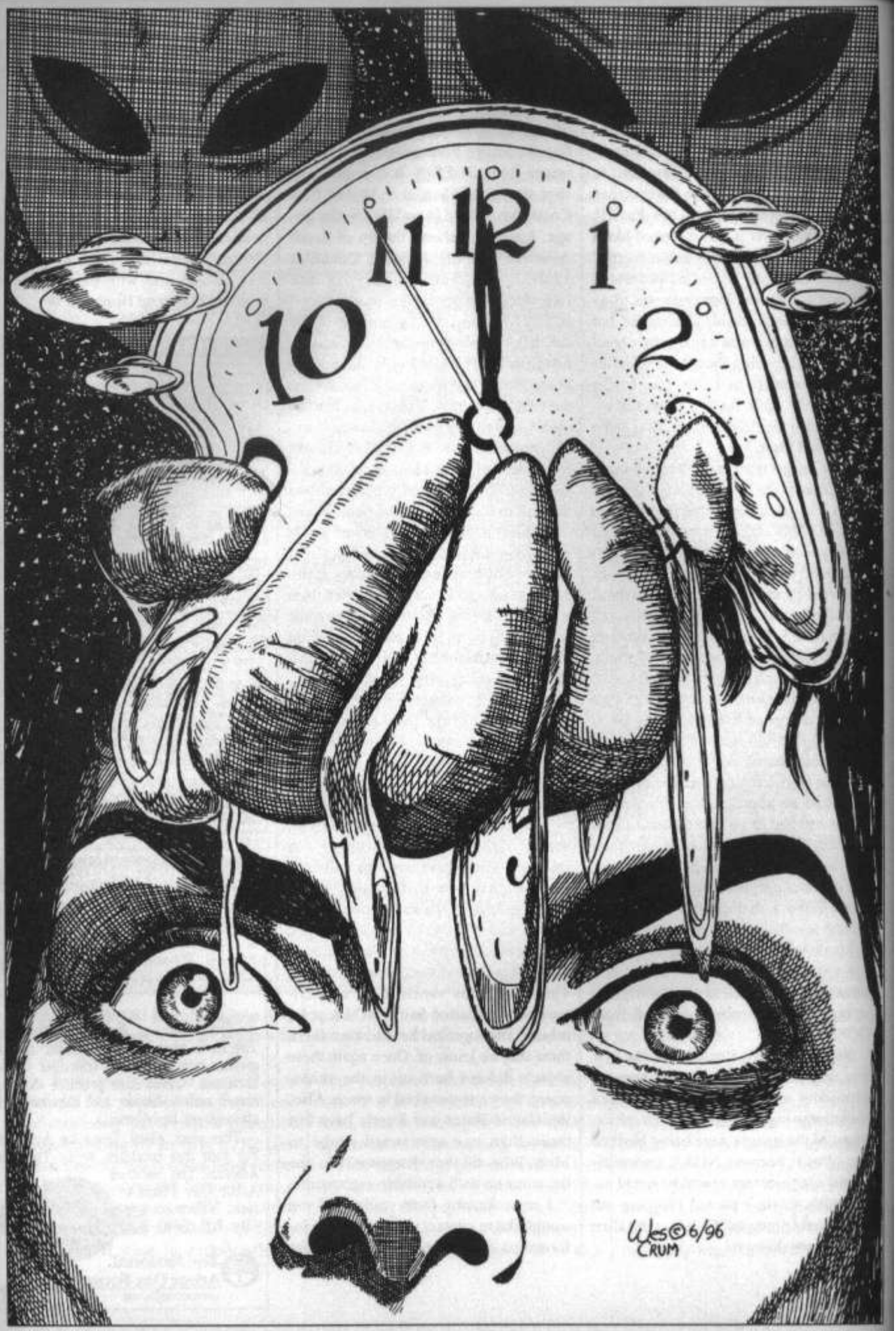
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CRUM

The British Isles and the European UFO scene underwent a busy year or so of sightings, abductions, missing time, and crop circles, and much of this unusual activity was chronicled in the newspapers, both mainstream and tabloid. What follows is a rundown on many of the major events of the last year that struggles to fit the elusive mystery of UFOs into the context of any sort of Earthly format.

Dozens of Shocking Sightings Go Unexplained in Europe's Astonishing New UFO Wave

by Ike Dillon

Couple Abducted By Aliens

From Gloucester, England, comes the following tale of the abduction that first came to light on June 30, 1995.

Investigative reporter Helen Blow recounted the story of Tom and Sally, a couple in their mid-twenties, who were driving along a quiet Gloucester road when they saw bright lights in the sky around 10:30 PM. A period of missing time that brought the couple home around midnight totally erased what should have been a short, eight mile drive to their home in Dursley.

The couple could not explain, Blow wrote, how they lost more than an hour of their lives.

"But bizarrely, the only explanation they can come up with is that they were abducted by aliens," the article continued.

This is obviously a very routine story of abduction that echoes even the Betty and Barney Hill saga that most experts call the beginning of the abduction phenomenon in this century. But the fact that it is common place does not diminish its significance.

"The Gloucester couple are not alone," Blow goes on "It is just one unexplained incident of many that have been recently reported across the U.K.

"A leading city businessman claims to have been abducted by extraterrestrials, who subjected him to physical examinations with sexual overtones.

"An entire family say they have been used as scientific subjects for alien experiments over a number of years and a woman from the south of the county

"They are helping to make us aware of possible mass landings in the future, so sightings and contacts are seen as positive events. Their technology is far in advance of ours and if they had wanted to harm us they would have done it years ago."

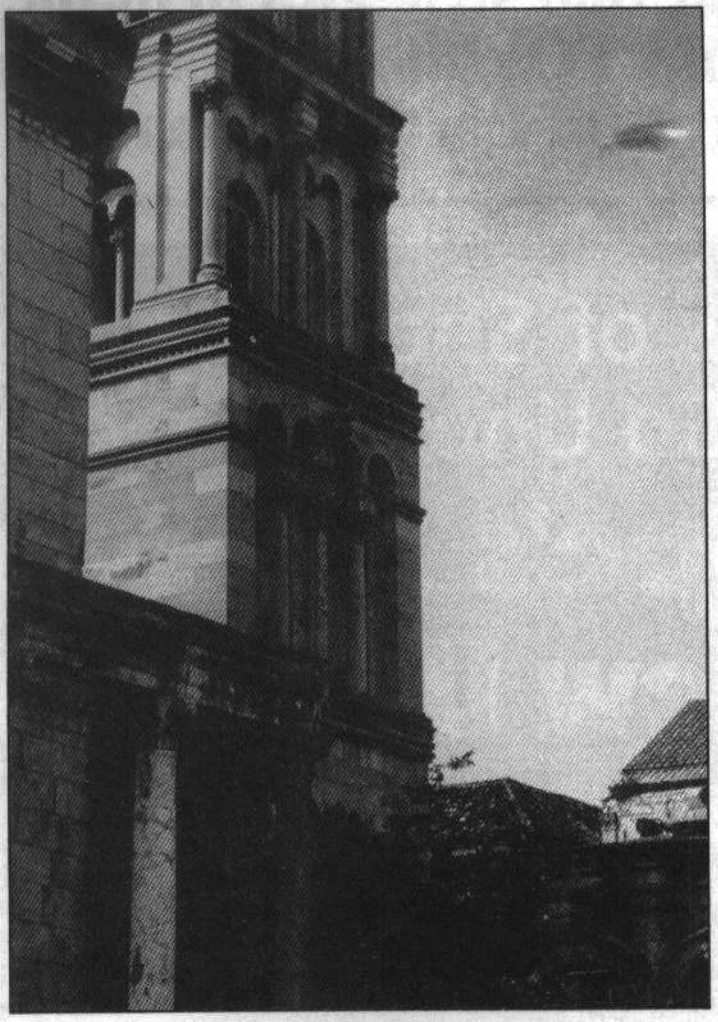
claims she was taken forcibly into a flying saucer and sexually examined."

The real import of this routine account of alien abduction in a small geographical area is that it demonstrates one of the principles by which abduction researchers seek to "prove" the phenomenon exists at all: the fact that the stories told by people all over the world are so consistent with one another that they cannot possibly be the ravings of an occasional lunatic. The stories people tell in New England (like the Hills) are the same stories they tell in Jolly *Old* England.

Another common factor in the account told by Tom and Sally is the failure of friends and loved ones to believe an alien abduction had occurred. In response to the skepticism of their families, the couple turned to a group based in Cheltenham called the *Psychic Research Group*.

Group member Derek Newman says, "They come to us because they fear they are going insane and need reassurance. They want to talk to someone who is going to take them seriously and may be able to offer some explanation for what happened. We do not automatically accept the people have encountered aliens, but we do look seriously into their experiences and try to come up with some answers. Obviously, we do get hoaxers but I think most people really believe they have seen what they claim."

When some researchers work to establish that there is a "standard abduction scenario" and that there are fairly uniform ways that people react to the experience, stories like what we've just presented certainly add to the strength of their case.



UFOs and High Pollution Levels

The notion that UFOs appear to people with a sort of socially conscious motivation is another frequently appearing theory as to what it's all about. British reporters Christine Day and Laura Miles published the following report in a newspaper in Sussex, England on August 17, 1995. Under a headline that reads: "UFOs Circle Brighton As Pollution Rises," the notion of aliens as helpful Space Brothers is explored in a surprisingly open-minded way.

"High pollution levels have caused an increase in the activities of UFOs over Brighton and Hove," the women write. "One expert is convinced that alien beings are visiting us more often because they want to help us solve the problem of pollution. The startling claim was made this week by Larry Dean, 41, director of investigations at Saltdean-based UFOs spotters Skysearch."

After giving an overview of sightings reports told to Dean of pulsating red lights in the sky and cigar-shaped aircraft, the article says that Dean "believes that aliens have been around for many thousands of years and are here to help the planet in a time of crisis." Dean is also quoted as saying that the visits are leading up to a mass close encounter.

"They are helping to make us aware of possible mass landings in the future, so sightings and contacts are seen as positive events. Their technology is far in advance of ours and if they had wanted to harm us they would have done it years ago."

Space Brothers theology? In a mainstream newspaper account? Stop, you're spoiling us!

UFOs Set to Land

We briefly leave the U.K for the kind

"This cow has all the hallmarks of alien mutilation. It had been drained of blood, the flesh had been removed from its head and its vital organs had been removed The organs were sucked out through a clean incision made by some high-tech laser device. This has happened to thousands of animals in the U.S. but it's the first reported case in Northern Ireland."

of story that keeps skeptics alive and well on the battleground of debate over whether the UFO phenomenon represents something "alien" or not. An Associated Press report from September of 1995 relates the following disappointing story of an alien "no-show" in Sofia, Bulgaria.

"Lured by three self-styled mediums," the report states, "about 1,500 people gathered at an airfield in northern Bulgaria on Monday awaiting the arrival of eight spaceships piloted by extraterrestrials, police Maj. Stoyan Marinov said. Among other things, state TV reported, "the mediums promised that the aliens would help this poor Balkan country pay its $12.9 billion national debt."

After the UFOs failed to show, the mediums offered the explanation to the crowd that warplanes flying in the region were scaring the aliens away. Police had to escort the three mediums to safety after the crowd got angry but there was no reported violence. After a discouraging story like that, we should be grateful for small mercies.

Mutilations in Ireland

From Bulgaria we go to Belfast, Ireland, for an article subheaded: "Farmers Urged To Be On Lookout For Visitors From Space." Reporter Donna Carton give us the following report of mutilated cattle from a region not often thought of as "mutilation territory."

"A brutally mutilated cow, said to

The triangular shaped craft and its lighting configuration have been seen numerous times in the past from the Hudson Valley of New York to the skies over Belgium, instances of major UFO flaps that have gone on for years.

have been found near the border, has been described as "the Province's first animal casualty of extraterrestrial beings bent on culling humans."

What's interesting about that lead paragraph is the way it cuts to the chase and offers an alien explanation for the cow's demise right off the bat. The area's first discovered mutilation is credited to aliens without so much as a mention of other, more earthly possible causes.

Miles Johnston, a member of Quest International, an organization that investigates UFO sightings and abductions, is quoted as saying the incident was "a sign that Ulster was under threat from unidentified life forms which had been wreaking havoc among livestock across the British Isles and America. Johnston said that the animal was reported to him by a farmer who wants to remain anonymous.

"This cow has all the hallmarks of alien mutilation. It had been drained of blood, the flesh had been removed from its head and its vital organs had been removed The organs were sucked out through a clean incision made by some high-tech laser device. This has happened to thousands of animals in the U.S. but it's the first reported case in Northern Ireland."

Johnston said he had also received reports of large, black silent helicopters and a saucer-type flying machine in the area at the time of the mutilation. Pretty standard stuff, but Johnston's explanation as to why the mutilations are happening was a little different.

"Cattle are similar in physiology to humans," he explained, "and the aliens are using cattle to develop diseases which they can use to cull human beings."

Are we expected to believe that an Earthly military agency has developed a plane that can hover close over telephone poles, engage in complicated aerobatics and do both things in complete silence?

Strange Orb Sickens Woman

Worcester, England was the scene of the next incident, one of those abduction accounts in which the abductee remains missing even after the passage of a good deal of time. In the *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, reporter Gary Bills filed the following story on April 15, 1996.

"The search is on for a distraught county lady who apparently had a close and sickening encounter with a hovering UFO on a lonely Bromyard road last weekend. The unknown witness phoned a local radio station to give details of her alarming sighting, but refused to give any personal information."

A local UFO expert pronounced the case as having the hallmarks of a classic and authentic UFO incident.

The article states that "The witness, who is believed to have been driving at night from the direction of Worcester, said she saw a dazzling light in the sly before her car engine cut out. She stepped out of the vehicle to see a huge craft hovering above her." The woman also claimed to feel sick, which could possibly indicate some form of radiation the local expert theorized, adding that "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," a typically English colloquialism that probably says more than it seems to.

Triangle Sighted

A sighting in Plymouth, England, a month later at least left someone to tell the tale. *The Sunday Independent* reported the following incident under the headline "Something Fishy Scares Off Anglers."

"Two teenagers on a fishing trip dropped their tackle and ran when a strange black craft appeared in the sky above them. Steven Wright, 17, and James Rawle, 16, from Wellington, said they were fishing near Milverton at about 8:30 PM, when the craft appeared making a low-pitched humming noise. They described it as a large black triangle with a light on each corner and another near the center. It passed overhead at about 200 to 300 feet."

Again, it is remarkable how consistent sightings reports remain from year to year and from country to country. The triangular shaped craft and its lighting configuration have been seen numerous times in the past from the Hudson Valley of New York to the skies over Belgium, instances of major UFO flaps that have gone on for years. The phenomenon continues to exhibit many common characteristics that fly in the face of debunkers claims that only disturbed individuals actually interpret what they're seeing as alien spacecraft.

Another characteristic of classic UFO sightings is the sheer absence of noise coming from the aircraft that witnesses report. How can such large craft fly over people and not emit even the tiniest bit of engine rumble or jet roar? When discussions of the possible propulsion systems of these ships begin, it remains a question experts cannot answer because there is no human technology that can accomplish the same eerie silence.

"It" Made No Sound!

From Aberdeen, Scotland, comes this report published in the *Press and Journal* headlined "Riddle of UFO Puzzles Roadmen."

"Two workers with Highland Regional Council are mystified by a 'silent' UFO that buzzed them early yesterday. Simon McKenzie and Murdo Macleod were loading up their road gritter at Achiltibuie on the West Coast when the strange object zoomed over their heads just above the tops of the telephone poles without making a sound. The object then flew off towards the Brae of Achnahaird, four miles south."

Mcleod, one of the workers, said the two stopped and watched it for about 10 or 15 minutes and that the craft was going up and down, backwards and forwards, and making all kinds of strange maneuvers. McKenzie, the other worker, said it certainly wasn't a jet or helicopter and that the only explanation offered was that it was a UFO.

An RAF base at nearby Kinloss attributes the sighting to aircraft flying in the area throughout the night "as part of a NATO exercise," but are we expected to believe that an Earthly military agency has developed a plane that can hover close over telephone poles, engage in complicated aerobatics and do both things in complete silence? It remains to be seen, of course, but the noiseless sightings reported worldwide remain a mystery with no immediate solution.

Occasionally in the course of media coverage of UFOs there is the odd case of a scientist willing to go on record publicly that there is something to the notion that we are dealing with alien spacecraft. An example of that comes from an article which first appeared in a newspaper in Dundee, Scotland, in February of 1996 under the headline: "UFO Visits 'Possible' Says Dundee Physicist."

Scientist Confirms UFOs Exist

"A senior physicist at Dundee University said yesterday that it was 'entirely possible, Tayside was being visited by craft from advanced civilizations from distant solar systems. In the wake of a rash of UFO sightings, Dr. Paul Crawford, a lecturer in applied physics and electronic and mechanical engineering, said, 'I certainly can't think of any rational explanation for what these people claim to have seen. While I would not class myself as a believer in

UFOs—I think agnostic might be the best description—I would not rule out the possibility that there are aircraft of extraterrestrial origin."

This is a classic example of what happens when an open-minded man of science confronts the UFO phenomenon. Dr. John Mack, the Harvard psychiatrist who wrote the controversial bestseller *Abduction*, hammered the point home quite convincingly that if what UFO and abduction witnesses are saying is true, then the alien explanation is the *only* explanation that fits all the data. Dr. Mack found that in the absence of any known mental illness that answered to what his abductee subjects were reporting, it was more logical to simply take their stories at face value.

This is the same approach taken by our Scottish physics professor. Dr. Crawford continued by saying, "All sorts of theories are put toward for sightings of this kind ranging from astronomical phenomena to weather balloons and secret military experiments, but I don't think any of these can explain what is supposed to have been seen around Dundee.

"As for them not being seen by astronomers or the Air Force, I should think that any civilization advanced enough to travel between solar systems would make every effort possible not to get too involved with our species which, by their standards, must appear pretty primitive and warlike."

Crawford also touched on why the ships were not seen by the university's satellite system.

"It would be a huge coincidence if the satellite was pointing at the right place at the right time and anyway, if you are capable of interplanetary travel, you are not going to hang around and be photographed."

Dr. Crawford went on to say that while many claimed UFO sightings were clearly hoaxes, this did not appear to be the case with the recent events in the Dundee area. Apparently, the UFO sightings had been made by numerous individuals in the area recently, many of whom have been relieved that they were not alone in seeing the unexplained phenomena.

There is strength in numbers, but those numbers still need the occasional support of a man of science with the kind of credentials that lend credibility to the level of reality the whole business rests on to begin with. We need all the Dr John Macks and Dr. Paul Crawfords we can get.

Ministry of Defense Representative Speaks

But it gets even better! We move from the sympathetic theorizing of a Scottish physics professor to the testimony of a senior official of the British Ministry of Defense. In the London newspaper, *The Daily Mail,* an article titled "The MOD Man And Some Close Encounters" appeared in the March 30, 1996, edition.

"A senior Ministry of Defense official has confirmed the existence of UFOs," wrote defense correspondent Sean Rayment, "Believed to be a member of the RAF, he was coaxed into appearing on a TV documentary by UFO investigator Jenny Randles. In a program, shown on BBC2, the official reveals how some case reports of UFOs over Britain consistently defy rational explanation. Last night, a BBC source said the program, *UFOs—Britain's Secret Files,* would shock skeptics."

According to the source from the BBC. "It becomes apparent there are now people at the highest levels of the Government who have not discounted the possibility of life on other planets. The program also features a former head of a Government UFO monitoring unit confirming reports of craft moving at huge speeds."

Radar reports of objects as big as battleships traveling at 4,000 mph across the North Sea in British airspace are also acknowledged to have happened by the unnamed government sources, and there is also a tale told by surviving crew members who insist they had a close encounter when they were sent to intercept a UFO in 1956.

The BBC spokesman concluded by saying, "The MOD finally concede that

Residents reported seeing a large, cigar-shaped object traveling at great speed over Kirkby Moor and the Duddon Estuary towards Havrerigg on Good Friday, at about 8:00 PM. One eyewitness said the object was overtaken by a passenger jet.

they remain 'totally open minded' about extraterrestrial life forms."

When the Ministry of Defense was asked directly about the claims, the article says they "poured scorn" on them, adding, "We have one person in the RAF secretariat answering inquiries about UFOs—that's it." Another article dealing with the British Ministry of Defense and it's response to UFO sightings appeared in the *Portsmouth News* in April of 1996. A defense correspondent named Richard Bettsworth wrote that, "The Ministry of Defense has admitted it has its very own X-Files team which deals with reports of UFO sightings—but denied that it carries out any investigation beyond assessing whether there is a defense threat.

"The two-man team in the MOD main building in London goes under the title Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A, but is nicknamed 'the UFO office.' According to the latest edition of *RAF News*, the office receives about 200 to 300 reports of unexplained aerial sightings a year, but dealing with them represents only part of its RAF administrative duties. A statement said that the MOD remained vigilant to any 'potential threat from whatever source.'"

Bettsworth goes on to say that was the only context in which the reports of unexplained aerial sightings were regarded as significant.

"If no threat is discerned—and in connection with UFO sightings this has been the case in all instances to date—no further attempt is made to investigate or establish exactly what might have been seen.' The report said the MOD 'remained open-minded' about UFOs and the existence of extraterrestrial lifeforms. But it 'knew of no evidence which might substantiate the existence of such phenomena.'"

Given the conventional wisdom of the UFO community, that is little better than a facile restatement of the standard "cover-up" policy believed to be the only public posturing the governments of the world can come up with. While they make statements to the effect that they are "open-minded" on the subject, they are meanwhile concealing a great deal of literal and direct knowledge that the phenomenon does exist behind a smokescreen of deceit and "disinformation."

But the article does sound one final note of optimism.

"Steve Gerrard, chairman of Southampton UFO Group, said that over the years the MOD had become more open on the subject of UFOs 'At one point they would not even say that this department existed. But they have become more open. They seem to be more helpful and when you send them letters now you tend to get a fuller reply,' he said."

Again we need to be grateful for small miracles.

Good Friday Sighting

The following newspaper account again features the typical "Official Denial," by the government and includes the sort of "rational" explanations used to mask the real UFO presence behind the events witnesses described. "The mystery of the UFO sighted above the Furness skies has deepened," the article from the *North Western Evening Mail* begins, "with officials denying all knowledge of its existence. Residents reported seeing a large, cigar-shaped object traveling at great speed over Kirkby Moor and the Duddon Estuary towards Havrerigg on Good Friday, at about 8:00 PM. One eyewitness said the object was overtaken by a passenger jet."

The article then runs down a list of agencies that refused to lend the slightest credibility to area residents' reports.

"The duty officer for Manchester Airport's air traffic control said that no unexplained blips had appeared on their radar screens that evening. A spokesman for air traffic control at Ronaldsway Airport on the Isle of Man, which was in the general direction in which the UFO was flying, also said there were no reports of any incidents from pilots on Friday."

The denials continue to pour in from one agency after another.

"A spokesman for the London office of the Civil Aviation Authority," the article continues, said "Air traffic control would not necessarily know about low-flying aircraft."

Next came a very odd denial from our old friends at the Royal Air Force.

"But an RAF spokesman said, 'On a bank holiday the RAF wouldn't be low flying, because we wouldn't have wanted to disturb people on holiday—and the RAF does not fly low in the evening. The RAF likes to have bank holidays, too, and unless it was some sort of emergency it is unlikely that we would be flying helicopters in that area.'"

And finally the Coast Guard jumped into the act.

"Forrnby Coast Guard confirmed that there were no air-sea rescues in the Irish Sea that evening either."

But there is another irony to add to all of this. *The Mail on Sunday*, a London newspaper, published the following article about the conversion from skeptic to believer of a Ministry of Defense spokesman. A very similar thing happened in the U.S. when longtime government spokesman, J. Allen Hynek, who for many years "debunked" UFO incidents to the press in an attempt to counteract public hysteria, went public with the declaration that he had become a believer in the alien nature of what so many people were seeing year after year.

"Nick Pope headed the Secretariat

(Air Staff) 2A office, with a brief to deal with inquiries about flying saucers and other unexplained phenomena. It was his voice which reassured the many members of the public who called to report strange lights in the sky or little green men on the lawn.

"But in possibly the most embarrassing turnaround in Ministry of Defense history, Mr. Pope has gone over to the other side. To the horror of his employers, the 29-year old civil servant, who now works in another part of the Ministry, has become a convert.

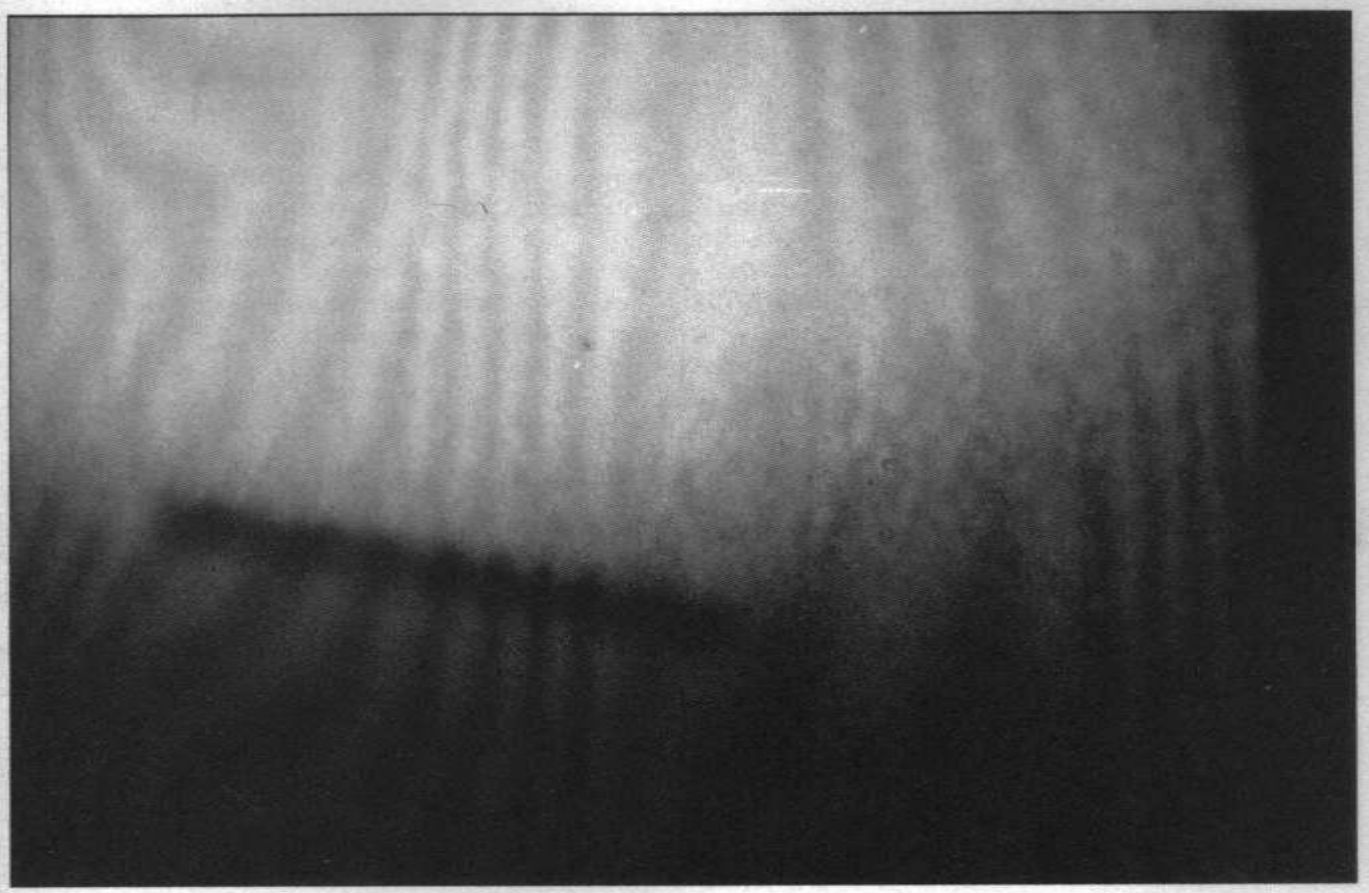
"I think it is fair to say that in my three years as the Government expert on UFOs, I was regarded as a bit of a maverick,' said Mr. Pope. 'I came into that job as an openminded skeptic and I came out a believer.'

"As if that were not enough, the errant UFOlogist is to publish a book based on his experiences as Britain's first line of defense in the undeclared war against the alien menace. Provisionally titled *Open Skies, Closed Minds: Official Reactions To The UFO Phenomenon,* the book is unlikely to win him mary friends at the Ministry.

"In fact, his bosses have already expressed their displeasure at his manuscript, for which he must get permission before publication. The book examines all the available records in the Whitehall archives, and talks about a number of new cases."

The article said that although Pope offers no convincing proof of a government cover-up, he does speak frankly about how his own transformation came about.

"He says he was convinced by the details of a small number of British sightings which have so far defied conventional explanation.



Rendlesham Forest Update

"'Probably the best example is the Rendlesham Forest case in December 1980 where some kind of object came down in Suffolk near the RAF bases at Woodbridge and Bentwaters,' Pope is quoted as saying. 'This is now regarded as the best attested case of a UFO crash outside the U.S.'

"Mr. Pope's conversion is likely to cause a sensation among committed UFOlogists. Graham Birdsall, editor of *UFO Magazine,* said, 'I welcome the bravery of a man who must have experienced tremendous pressure from his superiors, but who stuck to his views.'

"The Ministry of Defense refused to comment on Mr. Pope. But surely the men from the Ministry are wishing that someone, somewhere, would beam him up."

Admittedly the story gets played for laughs a little there at the end, but it does at least offer some relief from the standard public denial and the bending over backwards of official spokesmen who seek simply to explain away all UFO-related phenomena as glibly as possible.

So there you have it. Obviously, the British Isles as well as other European nations are subject to the same continual onslaught of sightings and abductions, of admissions and cover-ups, of mysteries and revelations—all the same elements that make the subject so unrelentingly fascinating over here, to include a bewildered news media nervously watching the skies and taking very careful notes.

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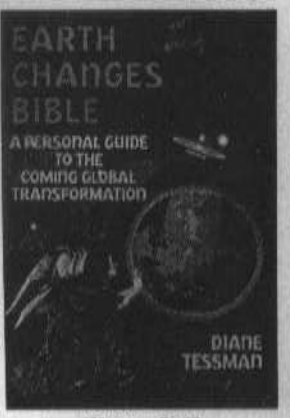

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by Jack Manuelian

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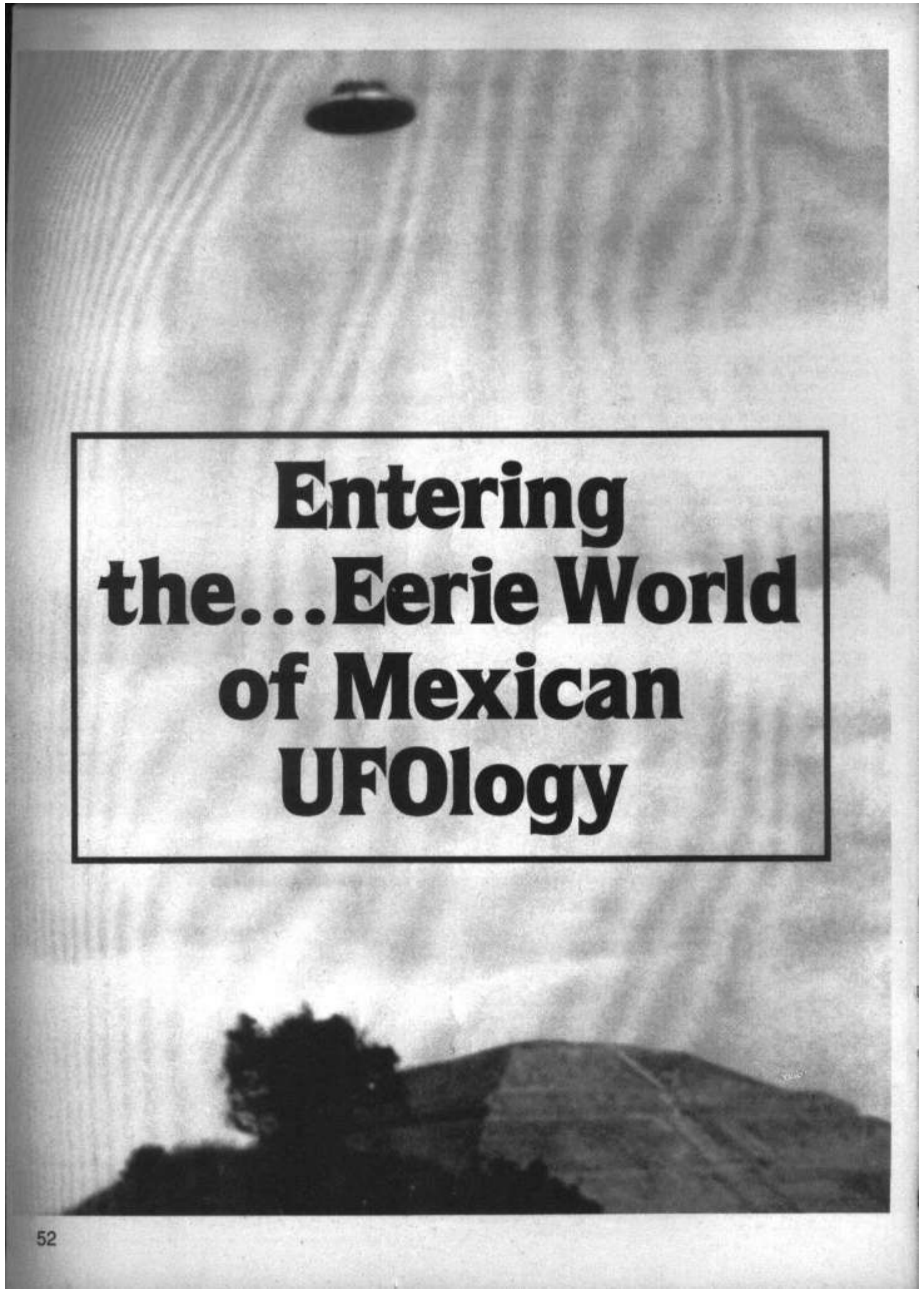


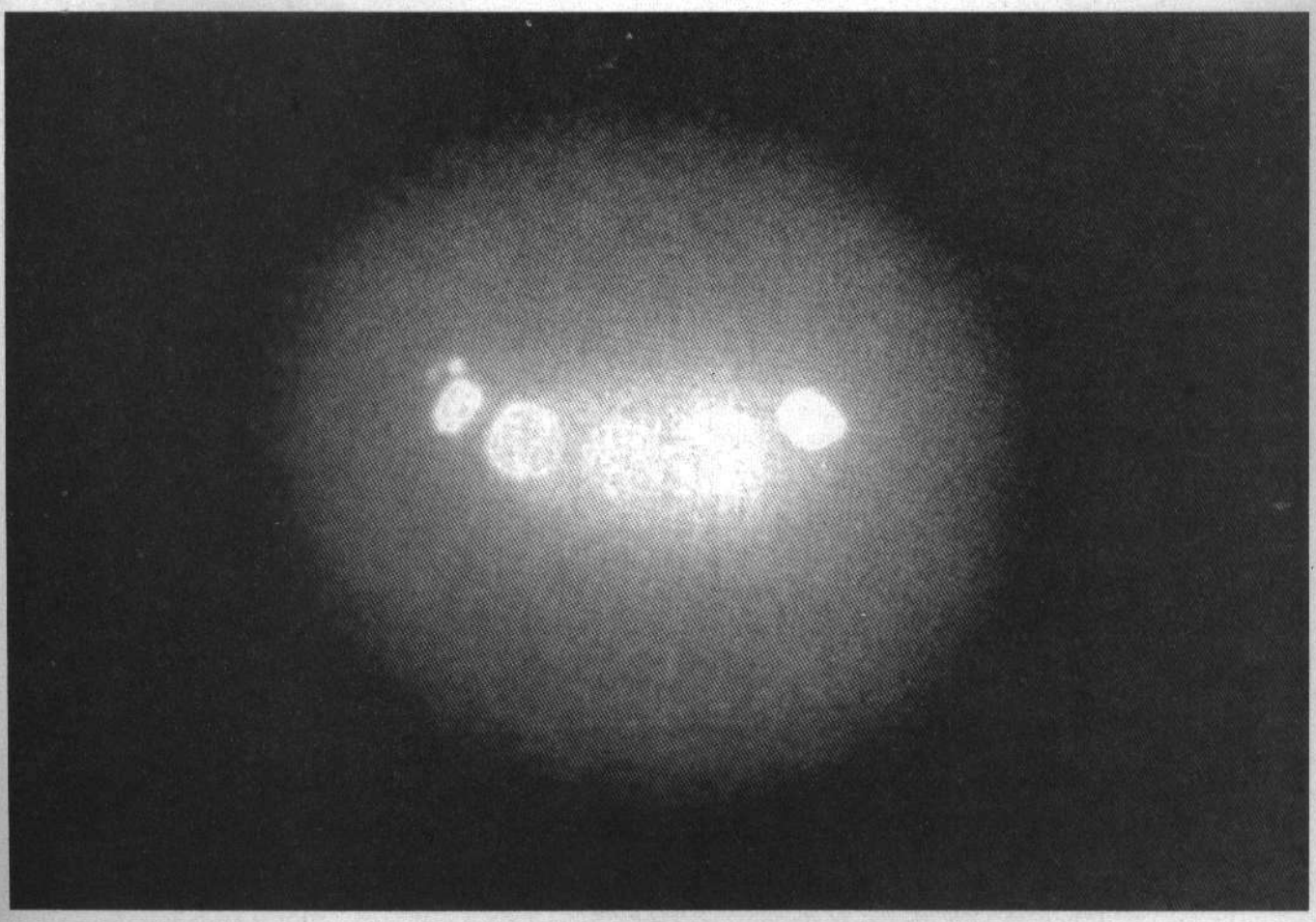
Entering the...Eerie World of Mexican UFOlogy

Few countries have attracted such attention for the number of unidentified flying objects seen in their skies, and Mexico is certainly the hottest location of the moment.

by Scott Corrales

Crystal-clear video and photographic images of tantalizing objects that just might be interplanetary in nature have been a boon to supporters of the extraterrestrial hypothesis; the Internet is abuzz with enthusiasts discussing the latest word on the Mexican sightings, even the disappointing "Superbowl Sunday" display of 1996 which turned out to be a meteorite. Interaction between U.S. and Mexican researchers is at an all-time high, and vast quantities of information on the elusive UFO phenomenon are being distributed to the world from this particular region of the world.

In May 1994, the presence of alleged UFO prints has caused a sensation in the Mexican town of Tlalmanalco. The vehicle landed at a location known as El Tenayo, where two individuals suffered burned hands as a result of touching the



A stunning object glowing with great brilliance was photographed over Atlixo in 1991. The UFO seems to come complete with a row of porthole-shaped windows.

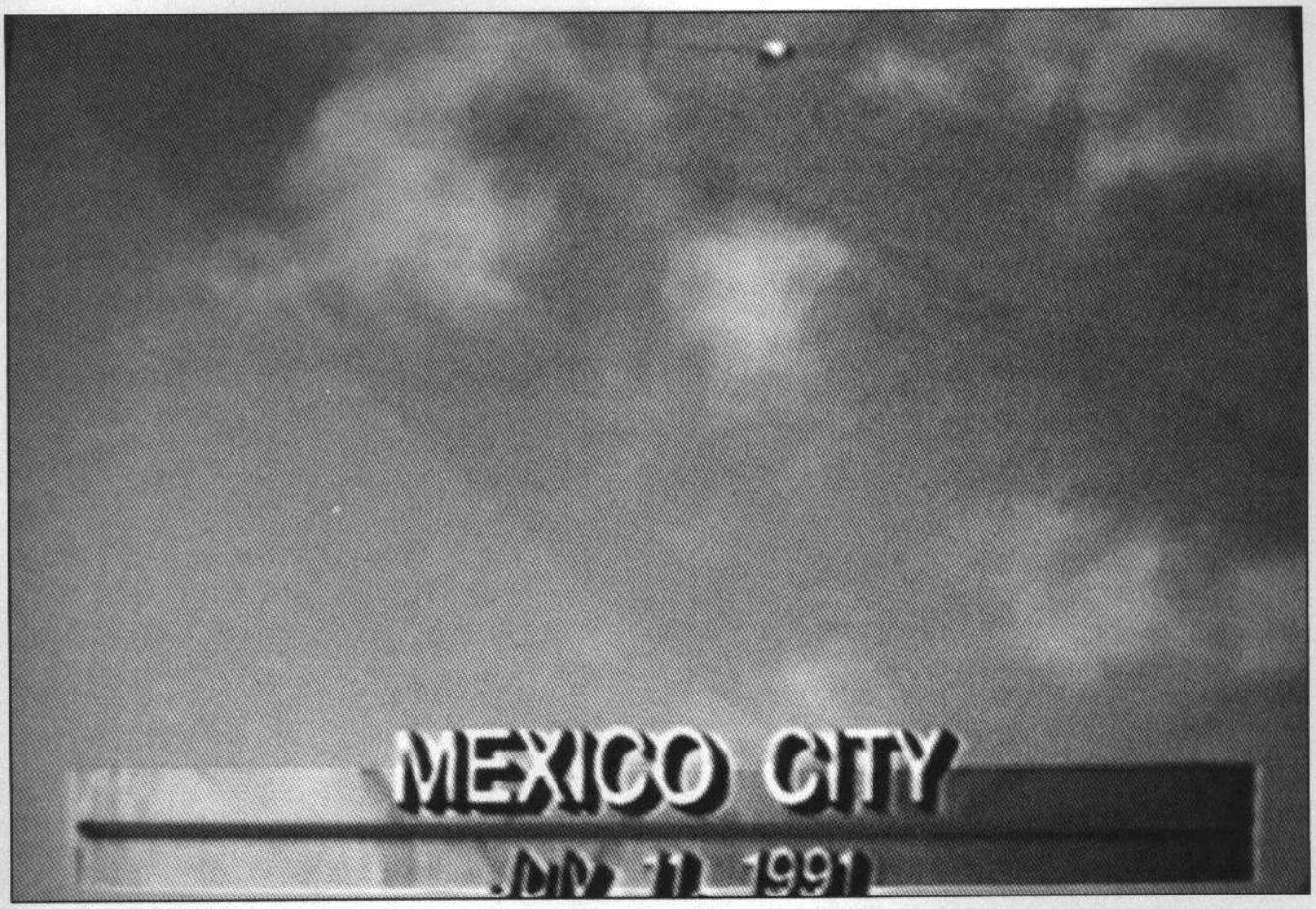
The earliest UFO wave recorded on the continent took place in Mexico, and although the Aztec scribes who carefully kept record of all activities in the heavens saw these strange goings-on as religious rather than paranormal activity, we can interpret their records in the light of our own knowledge.

site where the object landed. One resident reported having seen a luminous vehicle near the hill known as El Tenayo during the evening, but it wasn't until the following day that anyone went in for a closer look.

woman, told reporters from the *El Universal* newspaper that a creature the size of a 10-year old boy descended from a glowing UFO. Reyes told reporters that: "He (the UFOnaut) was a beautiful creature all in white, with a crown and belt

Reyes, but the latter withdrew as the human came closer. Other witnesses shouted for him to get back, since he ran the risk of being abducted by the alien.

After 30 minutes of looking at the UFO, an unidentified boy threw a stone



Even the capitol of Mexico City is not without its collection of unsolved sightings. This craft appeared for millions to see on national television back in July of 1991.

The sightings were not confined to lights in the sky and curious ground effects: humanoid alien creatures were seen emerging from vehicles, as occurred in the town of Cosolapa, Oaxaca, on the nation's Pacific coast. The main witness in the story, Joaquina Reyes, a local washer-

that changed color constantly. When I told him, come here, child, you're so lovely, bright lights issued from the crown and belt, as if he could tell what great emotion I was feeling."

A local resident tried to approach the UFO occupant, according to Mrs.

at it. It was then that the vehicle dimmed its brightness and took off toward the hills, disappearing.

UFOs in Ancient Mexico

The earliest UFO wave recorded on the continent took place in Mexico, and

The first photographic impression of anomalous aerial phenomena was made over a century ago by Mexican astronomer Jose Arbol y Bonilla, who observed over two hundred spindle-shaped vehicles through his telescope in August of 1883.

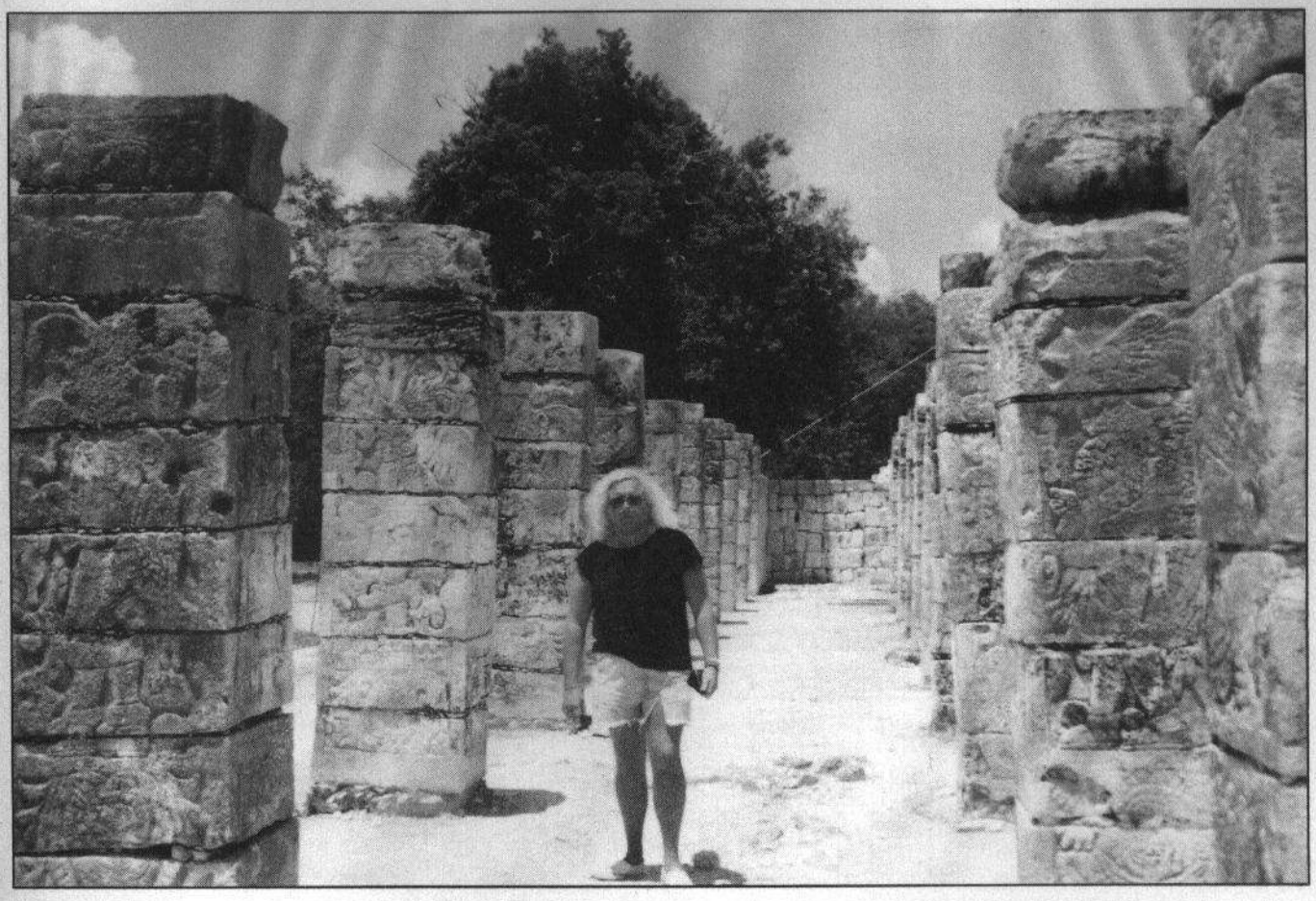
although the Aztec scribes who carefully kept record of all activities in the heavens saw these strange goings-on as religious rather than paranormal activity, we can interpret their records in the light of our own knowledge.

A chronicle of portents known to historians as "*Los presagios de conquista*" (the Omens of the Conquest) has survived down to our time through the efforts of the Spanish priests who learned Nahuatl, the Aztec tongue, which is still spoken in parts of the country. These priests dedicated themselves to rescuing what their colleagues were consigning to the bonfire as "diabolic machinations."

The occurrences gathered in the Aztec chronicles center around seven portents which heralded the return of Quetzalcoatl, the priest-king of Tula who had lost his kingdom and sailed off into the East, vowing to return someday to reclaim his realm. The arrival of Hernán Cortés and a band of five hundred soldiers was erroneously interpreted as Quetzalcoatl's return. In order of appearance, they begin with the "comet" of 1509, the "Pillar of Fire" seen over the Matlacueye Sierra; the fire that destroyed the *teocalli* or high temple of Tenochtit*lan,* and a number other events, no less important.

Historians have glossed over these curious incidents as purely symbolic or poetic license on the part of the Aztec scribes, or an inability to understand certain natural phenomena. Closer inspection, coupled with what we have learned since 1947, reveals that something very odd was going on in the skies over Tenochtitlan in 1509 A.D.

In the *History of Tlaxcala* by Muñoz Camargo, we find an rephrased account of the events initially recorded in the *Codex Florentino* by the native infor-



Editor Tim Beckley is more than soaking up the sun as he walks through ruins that once may have played an important part in the history of ET visits to Earth in bygone centuries.

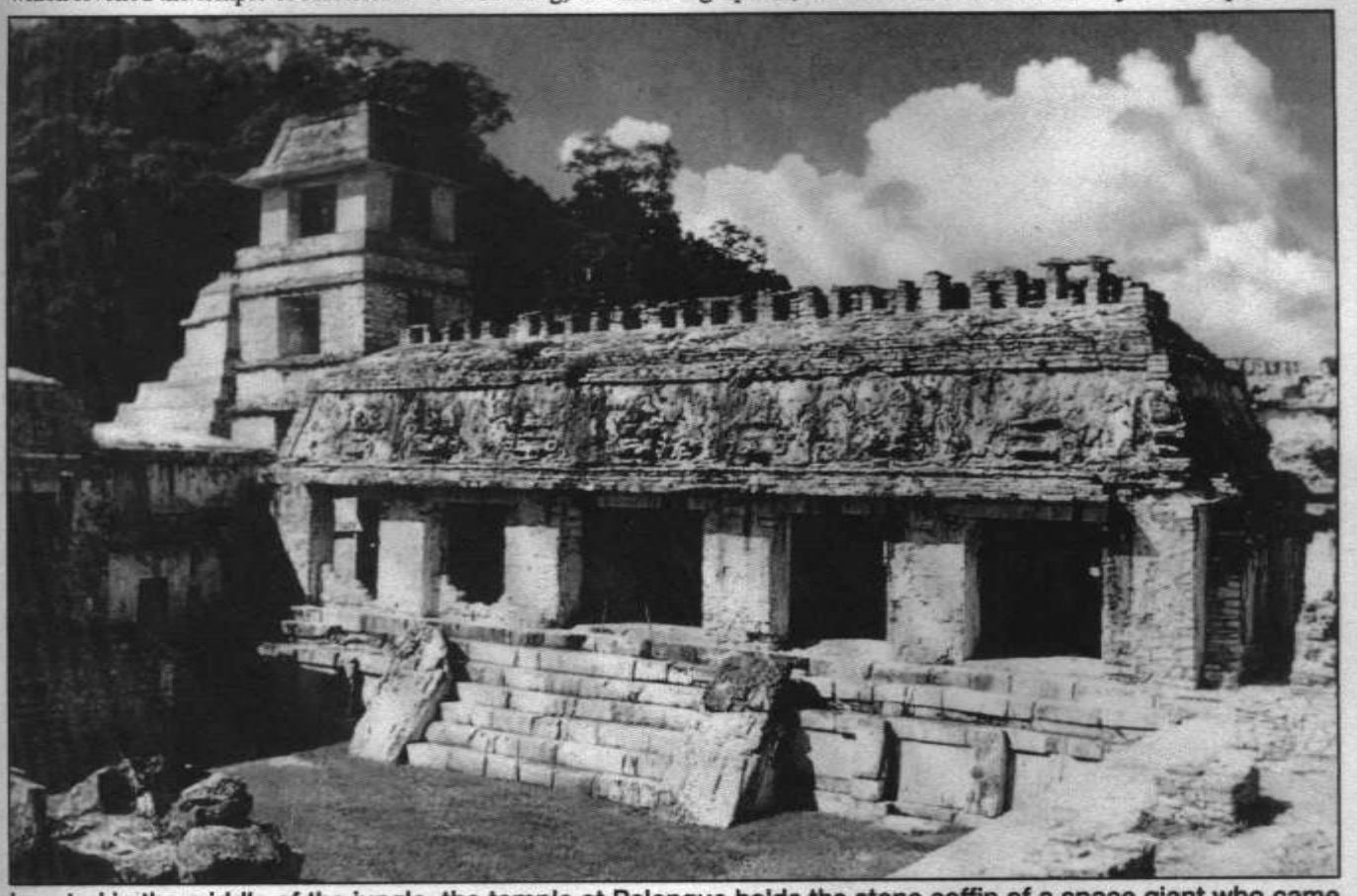
mants of Franciscan priest Bernardino de Sahagun: Ten years prior to the conquest, a great pillar of flame was seen in the horizon all day and night, causing much consternation among the indians. This pillar, we are told, "seemed to be anchored in the sky," and assumed a roughly triangular shape. This omen lasted for an entire year. This is reminiscent of the Biblical pillar of flame that accompanied the Israelites out of captivity in Egypt.

The second omen was the sudden fire which levelled the temple of Huitzchilopotchli. This "fire of unknown origin" consumed the entire straw-topped edifice with the intensity of one of our contemporary incendiary devices. The third omen, the destruction of the temple of Xihutechutli, was produced by a "ray" from above falling during a fine mist. This temple was levelled as well.

The fourth omen is perhaps the most important: "*...during the day and in full sunshine, comets from heaven sallied forth in threes, from East to West, full of force and violence, issuing sparks in their flight...*"

An earlier account describes it this way: "*...While the sun still shone, a fire fell from above. It split into three. It came from where the sun sets, heading toward where it rises, like an ember, showering sparks. Long was its head, and far-reaching its tail. When it was seen there was great commotion, as if bells were ringing.*"

While it may well have been a bolide or fireball, the impression that it was a guided device permeates both passages. UFO's splitting into three and then reforming, or throwing sparks, or accompanied by a buzzing or tintinabulation are certainly nothing new, and researchers have documented a wealth of cases along these lines.



Located in the middle of the jungle, the temple at Palenque holds the stone coffin of a space giant who came to Earth thousands of years ago. (From files of Cisco Drake)

Thirty Years of UFO Cases

Our neighbor to the south has produced a dramatic number of UFO cases, and certainly Mexico has always exerted a fascination on UFOlogists and enthusiasts. After all, the first photographic impression of anomalous aerial phenomena was made over a century ago by Mexican astronomer Jose Arbol y Bonilla, who observed over two hundred spindle-shaped vehicles through his telescope in August of 1883. Modern UFOlogy kicked off in Mexico not long after Kenneth Arnold's 1947 sighting over Mt. Rainier. Early editions of Maj. Edward Ruppelt's *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* contained a black and white photograph of Mexicans looking up at the sky in search of *platívolos* during the 1950's.

On September 18th, 1968, taxicab driver Antonio Nieto was rolling down an avenue in the city of Coatepec on the Gulf of Mexico. Further along, he pulled over to pick up a fare, who turned out not to be quite human: a black-clad figure with glowing hands and enormous cat-like eyes which shone in the cab's headlights stood on the curb. In terror, Nieto sped away from the figure.

Moments later, he encountered a fellow cabdriver, who had also been flagged by the terrifying creature. Both men took one of their vehicles and went in search of a local journalist, who accompanied them to the spot where the frightful apparition had last been seen.

Upon analysis, one of the recovered pieces of UFO debris proved to be an unusually pure alloy, unavailable to earthly technology at the time. U.S. researchers also believed that a subsequent collision had occurred in Tabasco and that two dead alien pilots had been recovered from the wreckage.

Sure enough, they ran into it on the way. This time it held in its glowing hands a crystal wand that gave off a light that was painful to behold. Deciding that they had seen enough, the four beat a retreat. A staff writer for Mexico City's *Excelsior* noted that in spite of the UFO-nauts vaunted ability to cross space, they encountered the same difficulty as Earthlings when it came to hailing a cab.

In January 1975, five residents of the city of San Luis Potosi in north central Mexico witnessed the evolutions of an orange-red UFO flying in a north/south direction over the city late at night. Their description of this phenomenon characterizes the physical description given of most UFOs seen over this part of the country: the object resembled a ball, giving off an intense shine that resembled fire, as if the object were burning up.

Two such fireballs were seen by Jesús Aguiar in Baja California: while the young shepherd looked after some burros on a ranch called El Guayabo, he noticed two fiery-red balls heading toward him nearly at tree-top level, maneuvering as if to avoid hitting the trees. Aguiar added that an intense burning smell filled the air after the objects went past him.

A case which caused great consternation among researchers was the strange death in April 1977 of 14-year old Sergio Bayardi Porta, who committed suicide on orders from a small "cloud" that apparently engaged him in conversation. His heart-rending suicide note informed his mother that aliens from the planet Sonolcuclo, "three centuries away from our galaxy" had requested his help on their world. Unfortunately, the only way to reach this improbable destination was by committing suicide. The Bayardi Letter was employed by investigators as proof of the perils involved with contacteeism.

On February 29, 1976 a family on its way to inspect a recent snowfall (a rare occurrence in Mexico due to the high elevations) at a location close to the community of El Chico in the state of Hidalgo. Parking their car by the roadside, the group entered the woods, heading toward an area used for picnics in warmer weather. At around 8:30 AM, one of the children shouted that a strange object was suspended in mid-air. Having brought along photographic equipment to take snapshots of the elusive snow, the boy's father swung his camera heavenward to take an impressive sequence of photographs, just as the saucer-shaped craft began to exhibit the classic "swinging" motion that has characterized these vehicles. The photographs remain one of the most important documents ever collected on the UFO phenomenon. Activity of this nature has always been common in this part of Mexico, perhaps owing to the a number of large active mining endeavors in the region. The connection between UFOs and mines has also been observed in Puerto Rico, where the test pits dug for copper near the town of Adjuntas attract their interest.

In July 1977, hundreds of awed witnesses were able to behold a number of falling unidentified flying objects, some of which were even captured on film. The mobilization of the Mexican Army over the course of the following days made many realize that something significant had indeed transpired, and rumors spread about a UFO which had collided in the mountains.

The town of Jopala, to the east of Puebla and in the vicinity of the Gulf of Mexico, became the target of serious research, mainly by an enterprising Mexican ufologist named Pablo Latapl. The townspeople had allegedly seen a solid craft explode into thousands of sparks: witnesses included not only the local mayor, but also a number of schoolteachers, who had been able to retrieve pieces of a rough metal.

The most curious detail to the townspeople's story was that others had beaten them to recover the pieces of the unusual material—a group of persons who arrived by helicopter and were obviously Americans. The news media would later report, as it often does, that "NASA scientists" had visited the area. More likely than not, these were members of the Air Force's secretive *Moondust/Bluefly* recovery teams.

Upon analysis, one of the recovered pieces of UFO debris proved to be an unusually pure alloy, unavailable to earthly technology at the time. U.S. researchers also believed that a subsequent collision had occurred in Tabasco and that two dead alien pilots had been recovered from the wreckage. Mexican researchers were greatly annoyed at the fact that foreign investigators had obtained access to the available data before their own research teams.

The mining city of Charcas in the state of San Luis Potosí, has also attracted its fair share of UFO sightings. In the summer and winter of 1978, a colossal blue-white ball made a leisurely fly-over of the community, bathing it in its eerie light. While driving along the road leading from Cardenas to San Luis Potosl, Octavio Ranger was treated to a bewildering spectacle near midnight on October 16, 1977. On the stretch of road close to the Tamasopo mountains, he noticed how the dark countryside, the mountains, and the road ahead of him were suddenly bathed in an intense light as bright as

day. Ranger tried to find the source of the uncanny illumination, and suddenly became aware of a tremendous fireball moving horizontally toward Charcas.

Perhaps terrestrial magnetism generated by iron mines has caused many UFOs to crash. On December 15, 1978 a 30-foot wide saucer-shaped craft plummeted to the ground in the Sierra Madre, not far from the northern Mexican city of Monterrey, in the state of Nuevo León.

Official response to this unusual occurrence took the shape of police and emergency rescue crews, dispatched to the remote area by the authorities. Their efforts, according to rumor, were in vain: the Mexican army had cordoned off access to the area a few miles from the site, only allowing the entry of a medical and scientific team two days later. Their findings, if any, were never made public. The late Leonard Stringfield, who zealously pursued UFO crash/retrieval stories, researched a 1974 incident in which an unknown object was tracked by the U.S. military as it flew over the Gulf of Mexico, passing forty miles to the south of Corpus Christi, Texas. The object, with a speed calculated at nearly 2000 miles an hour, began a descent into Mexican airspace, vanishing from the radar near the town of Coyame, Chihuahua.

According to Stringfield, who published this account in his *Status Report VII—Search for Proof in a Hall of Mirrors* (1994), the Mexican military initiated a recovery effort prompted by stories of a "missing airplane" in the vicinity: the Mexican team found the wreckage of the missing plane a few miles from the mystery object, which was circular and appeared to be intact aside from superficial damage. On August 26, 1974 a CIA-sponsored recovery team consisting of specialists flying unmarked, sand-colored helicopters was dispatched south of the border to recover the saucer with or without the consent of Mexican authorities. Aerial surveillance photographs, in the meanwhile, had revealed an alarming situation—the Mexican convoy with the recovered saucer had stopped in mid-desert. Two dead human bodies were seen lying on the ground next to the vehicles. The American team proceeded with its own recovery effort, successfully ferrying the sixteen-foot wide disk

The author of this story, Scott Corrales, suggests that UFOs may have played a prominent part in Mexico's past and could have even caused the fall of the Aztec Empire. This figure could well represent the arrival of ancient astronauts to our cosmic shores.

The collision of the purportedly extraterrestrial craft caused a great deal of consternation among residents throughout Nuevo León, who had witnessed the vehicle flying over their skies, changing colors as it did so. The crash-described as a "muffled explosion" heard for miles around—took place near a community known as El Potosi. The mountainous region was momentarily bathed in light, and a tall plume of smoke rose into the air, marking the site of the impact.

back to the U.S.. Its whereabouts remain a mystery.

UFOs have not limited themselves to buzzing small villages and shanty towns in the desert. Thousands of witnesses in Guadalajara were treated to the acrobatics of a zig-zagging UFO in January 1979. The entire city was paralyzed by the uncanny spectacle as onlookers were transfixed by the glowing orange object. The sighting heralded the outbreak of Mexico's UFO wave in the spring of that year—sightings were recorded every day throughout the states of Jalisco and San Luis Potosi, namely in the localities of Ciudad Valles, Cardenas, Cerritos, Charcas, and Matehuala.

In late March 1979, two boys from Cardenas reportedly had a close encounter of the third kind involving over two dozen small figures less than three feet in height, "flying" through the air enveloped in a bluish-green haze. According to the boys' uncorroborated testimony, the small creatures "were spinning like tops."

More things kept raining out of the skies: on May 11, 1991 near the community of Tequesquitengo. At around 11:30 PM, residents of Jojutla, Puente de Ixtla, Tequesquitengo proper and other villages were stunned by the fiery descent to earth of an object that appeared to be over nine feet tall and which could have easily weighed a ton. By all descriptions, it was solid and gave off intense light. It's velocity "was tremendous," according to the same reports, and a sonic boom rattled all the homes and buildings in the surrounding towns. Many residents first believed that they were experiencing either an earthquake or a the explosion of a refinery located in the area.

The epidemic of cattle mutilations which affected the United States during the 1970s also affected Mexico, and produced a number of little-known cases. Spanish researcher Salvador Freixedo, for example, was accused by Mexican authorities of trying to spread panic when he spoke publicity of a number of deaths in the state of Querétaro which had been connected with the appearance of red orbs in the night sky, considered evil omens among the Indians. More controversial was his report of the human upper torso which crashed through a car windshield in 1978: the torso had been cleanly severed as if by a giant cleaver, with no blood or dangling tissue. Forensic experts ruled out vehicular homicide as the cause of death, although the car's occupants—oil workers from the PEMEX plant in Tabasco—were sent to jail, and released later. A backlash against UFO-related events took place in January 1974: on the outskirts of Mexico City, in the vicinity of Mt. Ajusco (where the ancient Aztecs held their "fuego nuevo" ritual every 52 years), the local priest led an uprising of his parishioners against contactees and their "extraterrestrial friends."

Sightings in the Nineties

April 22, 1993 will always be remembered as the day when intense UFO activity occurred throughout the area comprising Ciudad Valle (San Luis Potosi) and its outlying communities. This region, which had remained rather inactive since the late 1970's, burst into activity on the evening of April 22. Hundreds of eyewitnesses saw the nocturnal evolutions of luminous vehicles performing aerial somersaults for well over an hour. Four disc-shaped vehicles, escorted by a larger "mothership" cavorted with impunity over Mexico.

A similar event took place on April 26 and 27, but this time the intruders were accompanied by unknown, mysterious "airplanes" (reminiscent of the "ghost flyers" reported over Scandinavia in the 1940's) that flew lower than the UFOs themselves before thousands of startled onlookers. Circles of crushed and burnt vegetation were found in Chantol, a community close to Valles, and in the vicinity of the Tanchipa Mountains, an ecological reserve and a natural site of many mysteries and legends, respected by many natives to the point of fear, on account of the numerous UFO sightings and the growing number of hunters who have disappeared there under mysterious circumstances.

Reporter Ruben Manrique was able to confirmed that a battalion of the Mexican Army's 5th Cavalry Regiment had been commissioned to investigate the alleged collision of an artifact in the region known as Arroyo de los Gatos and Laguna de las Garzas. A reporter for a local television channel asked municipal president Eligio Quintanilla if there was any truth to the events that transpired on April 30th at 2:30 AM—the time at which a UFO crash allegedly took place. Quintanilla replied that he had personnel visit the site in order to conduct an investigation. Strange orange, red, blue and violet lights, however, had been reported, and had indeed flown over the town a number of times, and strange "airplanes" figured in the reports as well.

Dr. Rafael A. Lara Palmeros is Director of *Investigations for the Centro de Estudios de Fenómenos Paranormales* EFP) one of the most active research groups on paranormal and UFOlogical matters in Mexico. His investigations have turned the heads of Stateside investigators mired in events that transpired in decades past and in unconfirmed locations. In April 1989, a sequence of bizarre occurrences began to plague the village of Vega de Alatorre, in the state of Veracruz. Around the 20th of the month, a "yellow machine" washed up on the shore to the locals' amazement, who opened it and found it contained two perfectly formed foam rubber acceleration couches, obviously designed for very diminutive beings. Perhaps it was in some way connected to the greyish ball that fell onto an estate called Santa Rosalia, whose proprietor brought it home. The villager's allegation, in spite of attempts made to control the circulation of the story, was that two beings, "resembling stinking blue children", were taken out of the ball. The creatures "were like animals," in the words of two local women.

At this point, Villa de Alatorre was in an uproar. News of the animal-like intruders was followed by the crash of a "brightly colored star" that lit the water with the color of blood. The Mexican army ultimately cordoned off the area, but not before the CEFP team could visit the site. Their findings, however, remain confidential.

Nonetheless, Dr. Lara waxes eloquent on his organization's in-depth probe of the 1991 UFO flap which caused a sensation in the state of Hidalgo, but which was overshadowed by events developing closer to the nation's capital. In an article written for the SAMIZDAT newsletter entitled *The UFO Phenomenon in*

Mexico: The 1991 Wave in Hidalgo, Dr. Lara presented a number of stunning case histories constituting an amalgam of sightings and close encounters.

❑ **April 22, 1991:** Ms. Adriana Velazquez Montes claimed to have witnesse along with her brothers Pedro and Miguel "a fireball" in Monte de las Cruces, near the site known as Tepeji del Rio. According to the witness, they were able to observe two "midgets"—1.20 meters tall— who signalled to them with a powerful red light.

❑ **May 12, 1991:** Three elongated silvery vehicles appeared over Huejutla, Hidalgo.

❑ **May 15, 1991:** A flashing oval object was sighted over Real del Monte.

❑ **May 22, 1991:** A small UFO fires a beam of red light over Real del Monte with no apparent damage caused.

❑ **May 29, 1991:** Hundreds of witnesses see a nocturnal "parade" of twelve shining, elongated objects over Pachuca, Hidalgo—very similar to the ones observed by the Velazquez brothers at Tepejí del Río.

❑ **June 2, 1991:** The first sighting made over the Tula colossi. One of the alleged UFOs came within 15 meters of the colossi's heads.

❑ **June 4, 1991:** First nocturnal sighting made by dozens of residents of Pachuca. Some 15 triangular lights were counted, resembling the ones seen frequently in Belgium during 1990 (according to the videos we have been able to examine).

❑ **June 8, 1991:** An elongated object is seen by dozens of Pachuca residents. It emitted a reddish glow.

❑ **June 20, 1991:** Three oval craft are seen at the same time that a solar halo takes place over Hidalgo (the phenomenon took place 11 days after the solar halo which occurred over Mexico City).

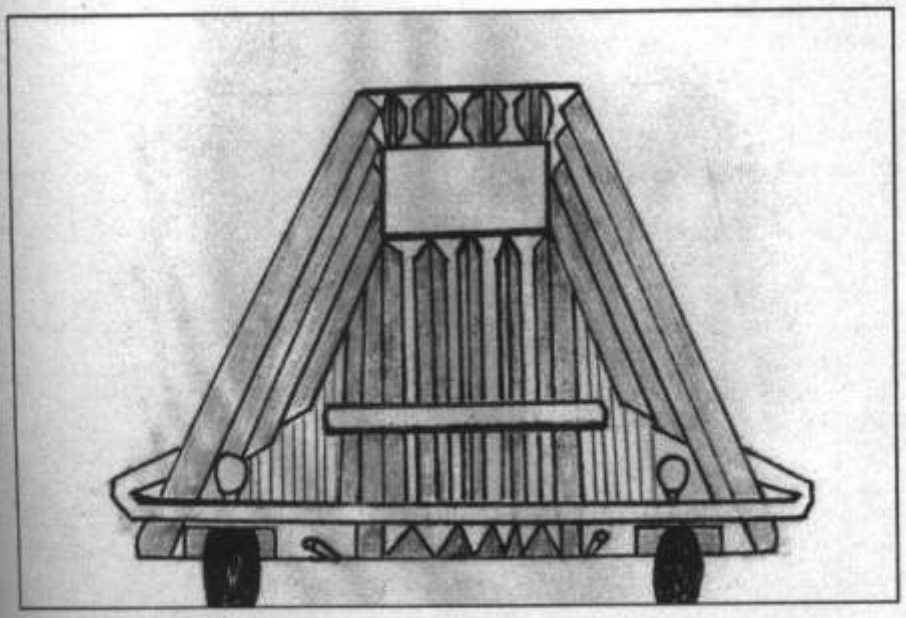
❑ **June 25, 1991:** Six unidentified flying objects sighted over Huejutla, Hidalgo.

❑ **July 2, 1991:** A flotilla of 10 to 15 triangular lights are seen over Jasso, Tepeji, Tula and other cities in Hidalgo.

❑ **July 10 1991:** A very fast oval vehicle appears in the skies over Tepejí del Rio and is seen by scores of drivers from the Pachuca—Mexico City Expressway around 3:00 PM. A day later, a UFO similar to the one seen in Hidalgo turns up over Mexico City.

❑ **July 14, 1991:** Sr. Antonio Pulido Obregon manages to capture on videotape alleged UFOs moving at high speed from east to west in Jasso, Hidalgo.

Dr. Lara echoes the ubiquitous claim of supposed "NASA" Personnel visiting the area of the sightings: "During the first few days of June, agents allegedly from the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) visited Pachuca in order to inspect and gather information from among the population (according to a civil engineer, an agent surnamed Brown took down two booklets filled with data provided by alleged witnessed to the sightings). We were unable to corroborate this fact with the pertinent authorities." ■



SPACE BEINGS HAVE VISITED MEXICO FOR CENTURIES

According to at least one veteran Spanish-speaking UFO researcher, beings from other worlds have been visiting Mexico for centuries and have more-or-less set up base South of the Border.

Cisco Drake maintains that tourists and locals who want to find out the truth need only visit some of the popular pyramid structures, such as those located in the state of Hidalgo near Mexico City to find what could easily be proof of "ancient astronauts with huge stone heads that seem to be wearing some sort of space helmet." Drake further states that in the middle of the jungle, at Palenque, in the Mexican state of Chiapas, was discovered the coffin of a "space giant who had come down to Earth thousands of years ago."

The Spring Equinox draws thousands yearly to Teotihuacan to see the shadowy figure of a snake appear on the pyramid steps as if by magic. On March 20, 1995, those present not only witnessed this annual phenomena, but they also saw in the sky a typical flying saucer. "The UFO buzzed the ruins for quite a few minutes," Drake notes, "and was seen by everyone there. Pic-

tures were taken and one of the photographs accompanies this story.

The noted researcher—whose theories might be considered controversial by other Mexican UFOlogists—insists that space people who look very human in appearance have been seen to come and go pretty much as they please in certain locations.

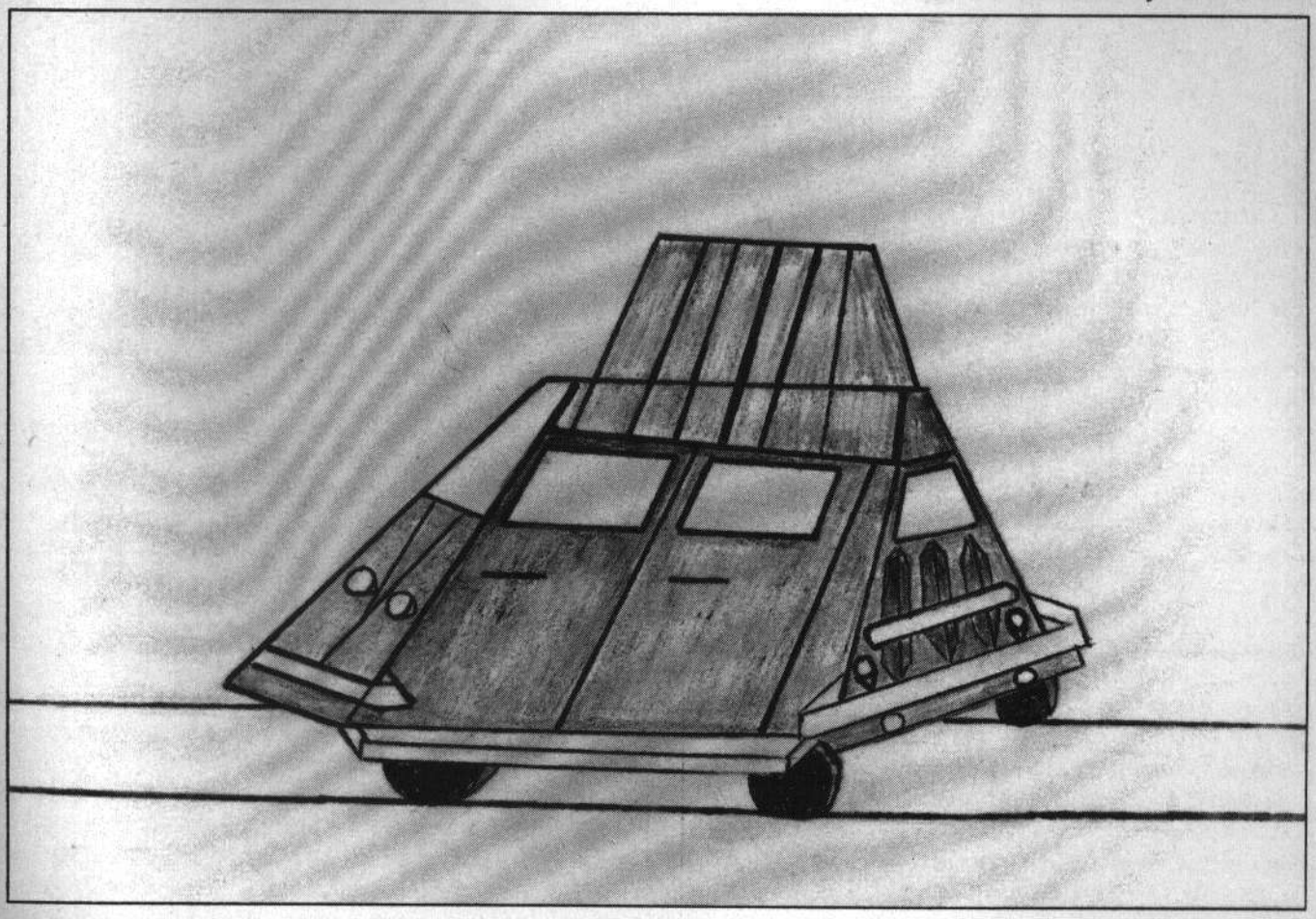
"I've visited one place called Satellite City. One afternoon I visited the local shopping center there only to find it nearly vacant in the middle of the day. At first, maybe I thought the residents were celebrating a local holiday I was not familiar with. Later, I found out that they often stayed indoors because they were afraid of having a close encounter with people from other planets.

"As I stood in the parking lot I heard the sound of a vehicle approaching from the distance. All at once I see this small, grey painted motor vehicle that's shaped like a large accordion. It struck me that this had to be some sort of vehicle being used in an advertising campaign or publicity stunt, mainly because of its strange shape. The tires were very thick, much thicker than we would use for this type of small 'car.' The rear had a large space for a license plate, except that there was none."

Moving just a wee bit closer, Drake got the surprise of his life when he saw who was inside the vehicle. "Out stepped four, very tall, individuals. A man and a woman about eight feet or taller and two younger individuals who were about a foot smaller in stature."

Drake notes that the vehicle's occupants were dressed casually and that their expressions were of happy, healthy people. "Their bodies were distinguished, strong looking and quite thin—similar to the bodies of professional dancers. They all seemed to have some sort of hearing device attached to their left ear. They walked with a shuffle like people stepping over melting snow. They also had something metallic attached to both of their ankles. They walked into the super market and attempted to talk to the workers there, but it seemed like they were unable to communicate with anyone." Eventually, Drake insists they did make a purchase and walked back to their vehicle carrying bags filled with pretty ordinary products.

Drake says he has heard that these peaceful beings have established contact with a group of Mexican engineers and have set up bases underground to carry out their work which is of no harm to Earthly occupants. ■



While researching rumors of space beings residing today in Mexico, Cisco Drake claims he actually witnessed four exceedingly tall UFOnauts emerge from this strange vehicle which pulled up in the parking lot of a shopping mall in Mexico's Satellite City. The vehicle was apparently built on the principle of an accordion and could neatly fit into a small amount of space.

The sudden rise of Chupacabras interest in Mexico, resulting from a mind-bending string of animal mutilations and attacks upon humans, prompted the same commercial interest which had surfaced only months earlier in Puerto Rico.

The Year of the Chupacabras

by Scott Corrales

Paranormally speaking, the year 1995 and the earlier part of 1996 belonged to the terrifying personage known as the "Chupacabras" or Goatsucker. Oceans of ink on three continents have been spilled concerning the exploits of this slayer of livestock and sworn enemy of the small farmer. Even skeptics have felt prompted to write about this entity, albeit cynically. A Puerto Rican political satirist, Fernando Clemente, writing about the devastation caused by Hurricane Hortense in 1996, made the following observation: "Hurricanes are the cause of many things, refugees among them. What all of you didn't know, but will now know thanks to my long forked tongue, is the identity of hurricane Hortense's first refugee. Entirely credible sources...have told me that the first refugee from the hurricane's wrath was...the Chupacabras! That's right, you heard me: the CHUPACABRAS."

The satirist goes on to say that mayor José "Chemo" Soto has concealed the creature in a closet somewhere in the townhall, fearing for its safety. "Rest assured," Clemente adds, "that as the floodwaters go down and election day draws closer, 'Chemo' will release the Chupacabras. After all, without the Chupacabras, 'Chemo' is merely another third-rate politician."

The music industry took advantage of the Chupacabras' infamous notoriety, fully cognizant that its appeal would be positively lucrative. A *merehgue* orchestra dubbing itself the "New York Band" took to the airwaves on Latin-oriented stations with their hit single *Chupacabras,* a bawdy ditty with few reprintable lyrics. A translated sample follows: *The classy Chupacabras/is fit for any goat/kissing their bodies and necks/inside, outside, what the heck/I'll kiss one goat, two goats/three goats, five or more/I'll never lose the taste/for a lovely little goat, mmm!*

The sudden rise of Chupacabras interest in Mexico, resulting from a mind-bending string of animal mutilations and attacks upon humans, prompted the same commercial interest which had surfaced only months earlier in Puerto Rico. Taking matters to the extreme, a popular men's magazine released its own tribute to the elusive goatsucker, featuring one of their buxom models "in the role of the Chupacabras," wearing a tattered t-shirt that left little to the imagination. The centerfold caption read: "many have their own version, but so do we..."

Chupacabras in the U.S.A

The Chupacabras made it into the proverbial major leagues when the patrician *New York Times* deigned to include a feature on its Caribbean depredations

On May 2nd, a dozen goats and a sheep were slain on a farm in Hialeah Gardens belonging to Rafael Moreno. Aside from the deaths, the creature had also inflicted severe wounds on a number of cows on the property, bruising their ribs and in some cases, their wombs, leading the rancher and his family to believe that "whatever" it was had copulated with the cows.

in its January 26 edition. The article, penned by Mireya Navarro, detailed the Puerto Rican killings from a skeptical perspective, citing medical authorities such as Dr. Hector J. García of the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture, who put forth the tired straw-man explanations involving feral dogs, wild apes and even parasites. Further recognition was lavished upon the Chupacabras in the *Wall Street Journal* and in New York City's Spanish-language radio stations.

On March 10, 1996, Teide Carballo, a resident of Sweetwater, Florida, had been stunned to see an "inhuman shape" making its way across her property. Two weeks later, Olimpia Govea, a resident of Sweetwater, Florida, discovered that twenty-seven chickens and two goats had been viciously attacked by an unknown predator which left the bloodless carcasses scattered around her backyard. Barbara Martínez, another Floridian, was even harder hit: she lost over forty birds plus her pet ganders, which had apparently been slain right outside her open bedroom window.

Heartbroken and enraged, Mrs. Govea railed against "experts" from the local zoo who tried their best to assure her that her loss was attributable to canine marauders. If dogs were to blame, she challenged, why didn't they feast on their kill, and more importantly, what kind of dog leaves no blood behind at the scene of its carnage? Furthermore, Mrs. Govea's son and daughter-in-law claimed to have seen a shadow "like that of a tall man" deliberately pass by the window of the room in which they slept. Could it have been the same entity seen by Teide Carballo? In any event, the mysterious intruder had shown a perverse attraction for the Govea household, and a month later, the entire family would hear a tremendous noise, accompanied by an intermittent orange light in the middle of the night, as if something were trying to land on the property.

On March 11, 1996, Florida's third mysterious animal mutilation occurred. The Spanish-language broadcast *Primer Impacto* reported that the attack had actually been witnessed by a woman from Miami's Little Havana district, who had found her chickens dead within the confines of their cage. The witness claimed to have seen "a shadow through her window"—a shadow which allegedly was neither human nor simian, but merely exhibited strange movement as it shuffled past. It disappeared into a row of banana plants.

Luis R. Shepherd, a Miami-based researcher, summed it up in his Internet posting on March 13th: "We are very much afraid that this little monster [the Chupacabras] is visiting us here in the Miami area. Today we got the second report that 46 domestic animals were killed in their locked pen. We think the Chupacabras is a pet of the real aliens and that he is...a mere robot. It exists and is being covered by the authorities."

The same mercantilistic madness which had seized San Juan in the wake of the Chupacabras attacks also gripped Miami in a choke-hold: *salsa* songs about the Chupacabras poured from radios, video games featuring the predator made a hasty entrance, a local eatery produced the "Chupacabras Sandwich," and a restaurant proudly named itself *El Chupa Cabra*. Needless to say, the ubiquitous t-shirts also materialized.

On May 2nd, a dozen goats and a sheep were slain on a farm in Hialeah Gardens belonging to Rafael Moreno. Aside from the deaths, the creature had also inflicted severe wounds on a number of cows on the property, bruising

Chupacabras' victim with throat punctures.

The small town of Donna, Texas, located along the Rio Grande upstream from Brownsville, was the next site to receive the unwelcome visit of the Chupacabras. In mid-May, Sylvia Ybarra went out to her backyard only to find that her pet goat had been killed by three inflamed puncture wounds to its throat. The animal had been felled near its shed.

their ribs and in some cases, their wombs, leading the rancher and his family to believe that "whatever" it was had copulated with the cows. As with the Govea property, the Chupacabras demonstrated an unusual interest in the Moreno ranch, attacking repeatedly in spite of having been wounded by a rifle-shot. The number of attacks, and the repetition of the events in spite of heightened vigilance on the part of the family, lead them to believe that more than one creature was at work here, and that they were not dealing with feral dogs or panthers. On one occasion, Moreno noticed a "weird bird" with a wingspan well in excess of six feet perched on a tree-limb. The monster bird flew over the rancher and landed behind him, prompting Moreno to spin around and shoot it with his rifle. The creature ran into the Everglades and was not seen again (the reader will remember the bizarre winged creatures which preceded the Chupacabras' appearance on the stage).

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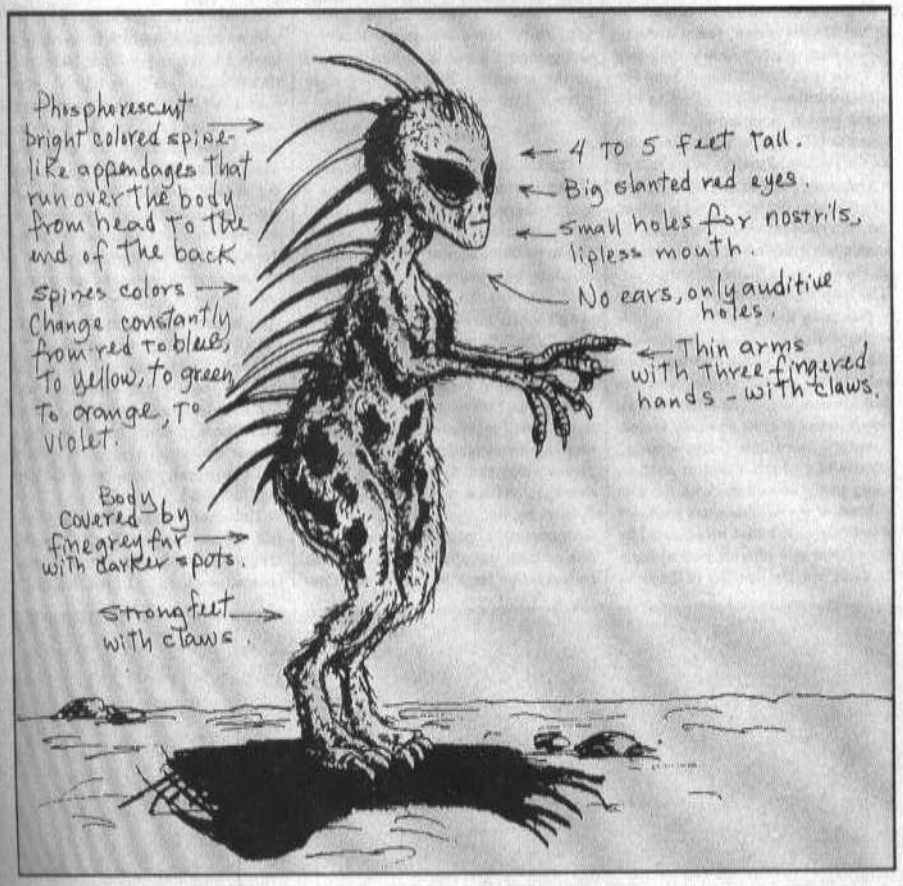
The story spread like wildfire throughout Donna, although local veterinarians assured the owner that her goat had merely been attacked by a dog, and that the puncture marks had simply become inflamed. As had occurred in Puerto Rico, the official explanation didn't wash, and this time there was a good reason for it.

The Mexican-American community living along the Rio Grande in southern Texas has known for generations of eerie giant birds which have routinely appeared in the area, many times coinciding with animal deaths in which the victim was left completely bloodless. In 1970, a Donna rancher had discovered one of his steers in such a condition. Yet the Chupacabras apparently did not linger in this rural area, but rather set its sights on going even farther west, this time to Arizona.

On May 1st, 1996, the Tucson police received a phone call from the home of José Espinoza in West Tucson. Apparently, something had broken into the house. Mr. Espinoza would later repeat his story to the media, saying that he'd seen a creature with large red eyes, a pointed nose and shrivelled features within the confines of his home. The mind-bending narration had the Chupacabras entering the home, slamming a door, and jumping on the chest of Espinoza's seven year-old son before hopping out of the boy's bedroom window.



Investigator Jorge Martin's original drawing of the creature, based on eyewitness testimony. (Courtesy CEDICOP)

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Footprints and handprints of all sorts were allegedly left on the walls (most of them corresponded to Mr. Espinoza's three year old son).

Heading ever westward, the wave of perplexing animal mutilations eventually reached California, where a construction worker, Roberto García, claimed that a puncture wound on the back of his hand was the result of falling asleep near an open window.

The Orange County resident told the press that he had been awakened from a deep sleep by the sensation of something tugging on his right hand. Pulling his hand away, he saw a sizeable, shadowy figure moving away very quickly. Adding to the "high strangeness" of this account was the fact that García's third floor apartment opened out to nothing but an alleyway below.

Culturally, the Chupacabras phenomenon took a slightly less trashy turn along the Hispanic communities on the Mexican-American border. Rather than the proliferation of t-shirts, there was a proliferation of the impromptu songs known as *corridos*—guitar compositions central to Mexican "ranchero" music which put matters of public interest into song. Apparently, dozens of such *corridos*, describing the exploits of the paranormal predator, blossomed along the river communities, some of them even becoming popular enough to be recorded. In the late summer, the border community of Zapata held its very first Chupacabras Festival, an event which drew thousands to the region to witness and to participate in the tributes to the creature. People dressed in cos-tumes which conveyed their personal vision of the Chupacabras paraded through the streets.

Chupacabras as described by Guatemalan witnesses (credit: Dr. Oscar Padilla).

The Pros and Cons of Monster Hunting

Perhaps no single area in the realm of paranormal studies evokes more reactions—positive and negative—than the appearance of strange bestial (creatures, ranging from winged entities and oversized felines to grotesque, hairy simian creatures. They elude police and hunters, yet become plainly visible to suburbanites emptying the trash; they have been seen hurling 50 gallon drums at their pursuers, yet also appear to have a ghostly, insubstantial aspect which allows them to vanish almost instantly; Tthey have been reported in every single location possible, from the tropical rainforests and high mountains to the heavily congested streets of our metropolitan areas.

Researchers have shunned research into these apparitions as a sure-fire way to achieve disrespectability, even among fellow investigators of the unknown. The scientific and academic establishment scoffs benignly at these reports, confident in that what isn't known to them isn't knowledge. Meanwhile, to this very day, thousands—perhaps hundreds of thousands—of witnesses around the globe continue to report encounters with physical entities that defy explanation.

In the restless years between the two

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World Wars, journalist H.P. Wilkins visited the Belgian city of Bruges, and looked into a most curious story regarding an ancient monastery, once occupied by members of the Dominican order. At the turn of the century, Wilkins' host told him, the monastery had been turned into a boarding house for the use of students and tourists. However, many paying guests refused to stay the night in many cases because of an apparition, described as "damned inhuman" and emitting a foul odor.

The owner of the monastery turned boarding house did not relish the prospect of losing any more customers, and contracted a crew of builders to break up the stone floor of a cellar which was believed to be the root of the problem. Nothing was found underneath the cold medieval stones, but when the cellar walls were broken, the builders discovered an alcove containing bones which were not in the least bit human. A pathologist was summoned to examine the bones. After examining the disquieting find, the pathologist declared that they belonged to an adult rather than an infant. Aside from that, he was unable to say much more on the monstrosity.

Investigator Burno Cardeñosa at the site of one of the Spanish goatsucker attacks.

The journalist was told that once the bones were removed to the Belgian Medical Museum, no further disturbances were reported. Wilkins ends his treatment of the subject by speculating if the remains were those of a creature

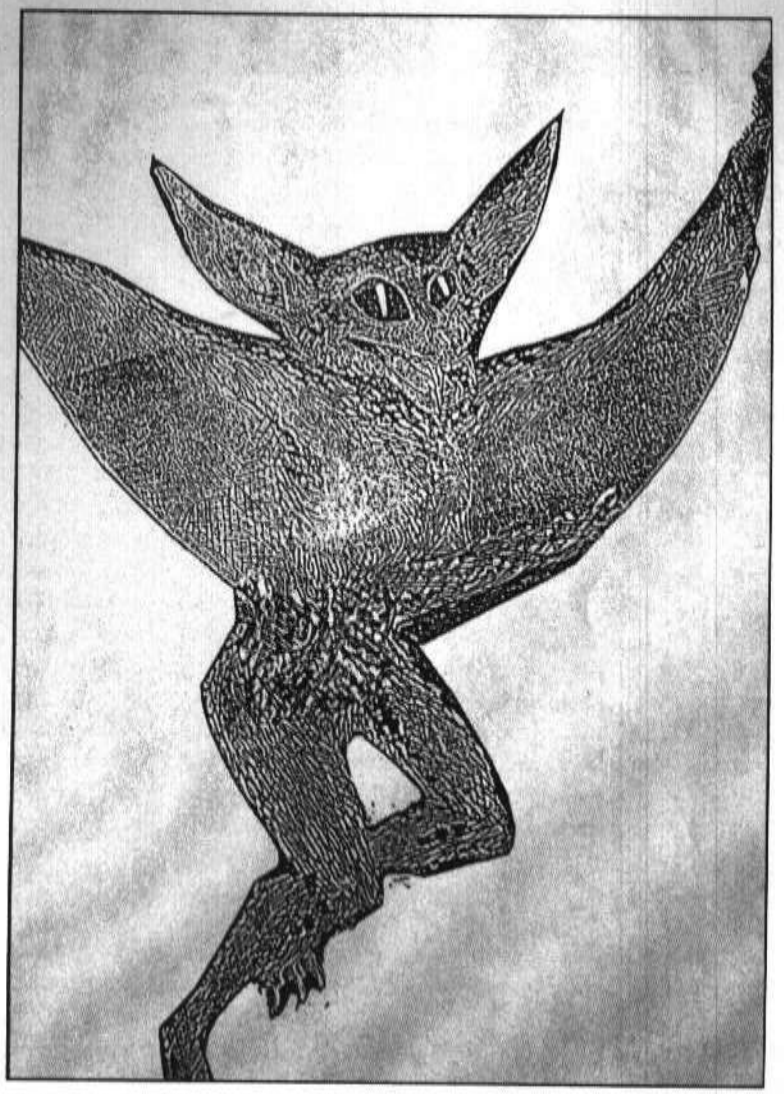
resulting from "some nasty amour of the unnatural type denounced in the books of the Pentateuch, or the remains of some horrible thing teleported to Bruges from some world in space."

This quasi-Lovecraftian account may be dismissed as a fanciful Gothic anecdote related to a visitor to a foreign country, but could those bones, lying in the dusty ossuary of some European medical establishment, be the only physical proof of the existence of non-human creatures which slip in and out of our world?

The Hairy Ones

Perhaps the man-apes known as Sasquatch, Yeti, Ucumari, etc. constitute the greatest and best known variety of mystery creature, and the only kind whose study has received a tacit nod from officialdom. Anthropologists have even gone as far as establishing its identity as the Gigantopithecus, an anthropoidal creature which may have survived into modern times by keeping clear of homo sapiens. The historic record contains mentions of these beings, such as that they were used by the ancient Medes and Persians as ferocious battle animals, and that Nearchos, Alexander the Great's admiral, encountered communities of these creatures on the barren shores of the Persian Gulf, living in crude huts made out of whalebones. Medieval bestiaries faithfully included them under such headings as Woodwose, Wild Man, and others. Bigfoot may have given rise to the Nordic myth of giant Trolls, and the Old English saga of Beowulf pits its hero against the monster Grendel—a dead ringer for Bigfoot. All this would seem to point to an elusive physical being which has been repeatedly encountered throughout the centuries.

Argentina's Salta region has been the focus for a number of hairy hominid sightings for many years. This rugged, mountainous region could not differ more from the Sasquatch's forested Pacific Northwest: arid, desolate landscapes meet vast salt deserts, such as the Puna de Atacama, where rainfall is almost nonexistent. In 1957, Dr. José Cerato and geologist Claudio Spitch discovered the footprints of a Bigfoot-like creature at an elevation of almost 16,000 ft. The prints, according to Spitch, were so large that they precluded the possibility of having been made by a human being. A month later, José Santolay ran into the alleged maker of the footprints, a large, fur-covered creature that emitted sharp cries which terrified the onlooker. Authorities looking into Santolay's claims surmised that it could have been the Ukamar Zupai described in the legends of the Coya inhabitants of the region.



Other Central American Chopacabras description (credit: Dr. Oscar Padilla).

Seventeen years later, Benigno Hoyos, a worker in the vicinity of the Arizaro salt desert, had a face-to-face encounter with one of these creatures, firing upon it with his gun. According to anthropologist Silvia Alicia Barrios, hunters have successfully apprehended live specimens of Bigfoot's southern cousin. One such case involves the capture of a family of Ukumaris—a mother and two offspring—by Andrés Olquín. The two young Ukumaris were allegedly turned over to a Paraguayan zoologist.

In late December 1993, there were repeated Bigfoot incidents in New Mexico, among them, sightings of a large hairy creature near a major highway; a white Bigfoot, another similar creature stalking a herd of elk, and more amazingly, a report of a large man-ape that hurled a dog over a six-foot fence. The Bigfeet were also active in Pennsylvania during January 1994, causing a flurry of excitement for a number of days.

Pennsylvanian researcher Stan Gordon's files include a 1995 case in which a young man, home alone in a part of the state notorious for its manifold Bigfoot sightings, ran barefoot across a freshly-tarred driveway to get away from a screaming creature prowling in the vicinity. Unlike its counterpart on the Pacific coast, the Pennsylvania Bigfoot has shown an inclination toward appearing in suburban areas and closer to human habitation.

But what about other simian creatures of a slightly less substantial nature?

Newscaster Jacobo Zabludowsky on the "Primer Impacto" broadcast announced today that Teodora Alaya Reyes, a resident of the village of Alfonso Genaro Calderón in Sinaloa had been attacked by the Chupacabras—the victim presented what appeared to be "burn marks" on her back where the creature had clawed her.

Noted authors Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman discuss the appearance of one of these man-beasts at a séance in Poland during the 1920's. According to the testimony of Colonel Norbert Ochorowicz, witness to one of these apparitions, the ape-like creature often caused fear among the sitters, but did not have an evil disposition and expressed "goodwill, gentleness, and readiness to obey." Among the Pennsylvanian sightings mentioned earlier are some which border on the paranormal: three-toed creatures seen in the proximity of UFO's, others which could be pierced by flashlight beams as if not really there (holographic projections?), and the classic case of a woman who heard the sound of raccoons or a dog rattling through the cans on her porch, and upon going outside to inspect, was confronted with a seven-foot tall hairy ape. The woman fired almost point-blank at the creature, which "just disappeared in a flash of light...just like someone taking a picture." Gordon notes that many of those involved in UFO/Bigfoot cases have experienced phenomena such as strange presences in their homes and other occult manifestations.

The Chupacabras' Trail of Woe

A year after the Chupacabras staged its initial appearance in Canóvanas, P.R., reports of its activities are still being received, although no media coverage is being given to the nocturnal depredations, perhaps as a result of the heated electoral season on the island, which tends to blow-torch every other issue out of existence.

Mexico occupied the public's attention in the late spring and summer of 1996, as the depredations of Chupacabras-like creatures spread from one end of the country to another. Reports issuing from the states of Veracruz, Jalisco and Sinaloa had the same alarming message—animal deaths multiplied as stories of human attacks began to emerge.

Newscaster Jacobo Zabludowsky on the "Primer Impacto" broadcast announced today that Teodora Alaya Reyes, a resident of the village of Alfonso Genaro Calderón in Sinaloa had been attacked by the Chupacabras—the victim presented what appeared to be "burn marks" on her back where the creature had clawed her. In the state of Jalisco, José Angel Pulido was bitten by a creature that left a suction-cup like impression on his flesh along with two puncture marks. Pulido described his assailant as a "hairless, dwarfish creature."

The town of Tlaliscoyan, Veracruz, some three hours away from the state capital, Jalapa, is at the heart of the region's goat-raising area and was also subjected to the mysterious animal mutilations which have become the Chupacabras' trademark. The death toll stands at 60 slain sheep in May 1996 alone.

Dr. Rafael Lara Palmeros, director of research for Mexico's CEFP, visited the University of Veracruz' Faculty of Veterinary Sciences to see what steps had being taken to investigate the spate of mutilations. He discovered that while there existed "an awareness of the situation" based on TV and radio reports, the medical establishment at no point planned to conduct field research of its own.

Events followed one another furiously. In the town of Laguna de Hermosillo, Sinaloa, the body of a drowned cat was fished out of the lagoon by local farmers, given what appeared to be "wings", and paraded as the "corpse" of a slain Chupacabras. While the media laughed at the hoax, 45 fighting cocks were found completely drained of blood in Pánuco, Veracruz.

In Mexico City itself, church authorities took it upon themselves to ask the public to remain calm, since there was no proof that "the so-called Chupacabras was demonic or extraterrestrial." Political writers for major news magazines like *Siempre!* and *Quehacer Político* penned scathing columns arguing that the only "goatsucker" was the disgraced former president of Mexico, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, and that the current furor concerning the mutilations was simply a means of diverting attention from the country's economic crisis.

Reign of Terror in Spain

The Chupacabras or its enigmatic kindred have shown no difficulty in crossing land or sea in pursuit of their prey. On May 25, 1996, on the outskirts of the village of Celadas in Spain, a bewildered shepherd notified the authorities that 163 sheep from his herd of seven hundred had disappeared without a trace. Spain's *Guardia Civil* conducted its own investigation and was able to determine only that all traces of the sheep ended at a location three miles away from their original pasture. The officer in charge of the search classified it as "the strangest cattle theft we've ever investigated," pointing out that no vehicle could have approached the herd without leaving physical imprints on the ground, and that the disappearance took place in

broad daylight. Journalist Bruno Cardeñosa managed to interview the local district attorney, who said that an order of secrecy had been imposed on the case, adding cryptically: "It's strange, very strange. Yes, they might have well been carried off upward."

In April, when reports of the deaths of six hundred sheep near the Pyrenees attracted researchers' attention, it quickly led to the belief that the Chupacabras had finally reached Spain. Insurance adjustors who visited the crime scenes issued the unanimous verdict that whatever was behind the perplexing sheep deaths was an unknown species of predator—definitely not a wolf.

Cardeñosa concludes that the Spanish version of the Chupacabras has the following traits in common with its Latin American relative: both creatures appear to exert a certain degree of control over their victims, causing both paralysis and hypnosis; all victims display two well-defined puncture marks on their necks, and the predator appears able to extract the entire blood content of its victims.

Spain's Chupacabras clone has shown the same restlessness as it did in the tropics, attacking in a number of locations separated from each other by considerable distances. On June 13, 1996, police officials in the autonomous Basque region of Spain informed the media that they had investigated the deaths of nearly two dozen sheep and the inexplicable disappearance of another two dozen animals. The official press release declared: "The only clues found at this time indicate the presence of feral or uncontrolled hounds near Mts. Arbaliza and Ilso," but old bromides were beginning to lose their efficiency. One of the affected cattlemen, Ricardo Barcena, publicly stated that the authorities had done nothing to clarify the situation, and that his animals had perforations on their throats "as big as a button" which went into their bodies to a depth of 3½ inches. The few animals which survived these attacks remained listless and refused to eat. Others, which showed no puncture marks whatsoever, would die later on for no apparent reason.

Further similarities with the paranormal predator which ravaged Mexico, Guatemala and Puerto Rico soon became apparent. A sheep belonging to another farmer presented a single telltale hole on the base of its spine. "Either they stuck something inside this sheep," he told researcher Cardeñosa, "or the creature—if that's what it is—has a very long fang, because all of the sheep's vertebrae were shredded. Not broken—shredded."

The last word in these cases has always been that of the veterinary pathologist who performs the autopsy of the hapless goat or sheep. The analysis of the carcass of a sheep mysteriously slain on June 25, 1996 indicated that the wounds had not been caused by a wolf, a dog or an insect. Whatever caused the wound lacked the characteristics of an animal or a bladed weapon.

The scene of the unexplained attacks shifted from the Basque region to central Portugal, where twenty sheep were found dead on September 5th, 1996 near the village of Touloes. All of them exhibited the single puncture mark which has become the Chupacabras' trademark.

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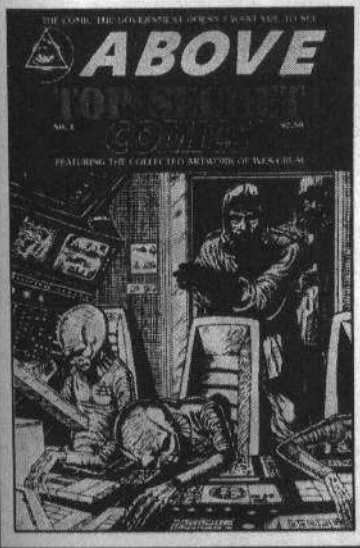

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The Decade's Biggest Puzzle Continues!

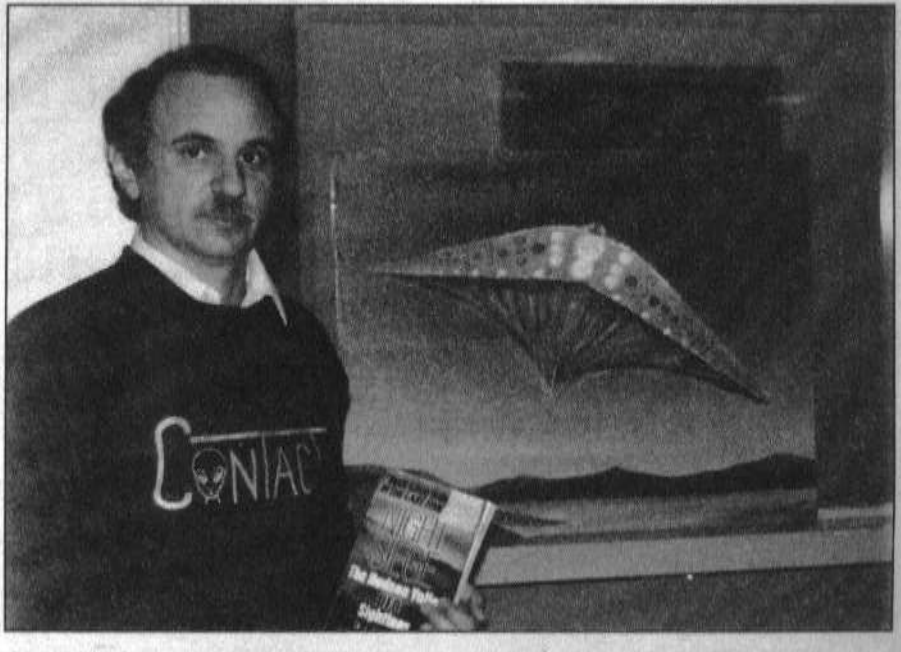
Mystery of the Triangle-Shaped UFOs

by Scott Corrales

In the photo insert to his book *Flying Saucers—Serious Business,* the late Frank Edwards included a number of UFO photographs and sketches, presenting their differences as the "evolution" of the unknown intelligences' technology, along the lines of the differences within each successive generation of Earth-built jet fighters.

Two of the shots compared are of the classic McMinnville, Oregon UFO, a sinister-looking black saucer with a "conning tower," and an almost similar one taken years earlier in Rouen, France. "The top tower so prominent in earlier models," reads the caption, "is modified in this type," referring to a blurry shot of a black UFO taken by an Argentine pursuit plane. These efforts at compiling a sort of *Jane's Spacecraft* presuppose an alien power (or powers) sending elements of its fleet to our

The case histories of the phenomenon over the past few years have featured an inordinate number of triangular UFOs, ranging from enormous flying pyramids to solid billiard-rack shapes and sleek boomerangs. "Flying saucers" appear to have become a thing of the past.



Chief UFO investigator Philip J. Imbrogno, has for more than a decade been "hot on the trail" of strange, triangle-shaped craft seen by *thousands* throughout New England. (Photo by Tim Beckley.)

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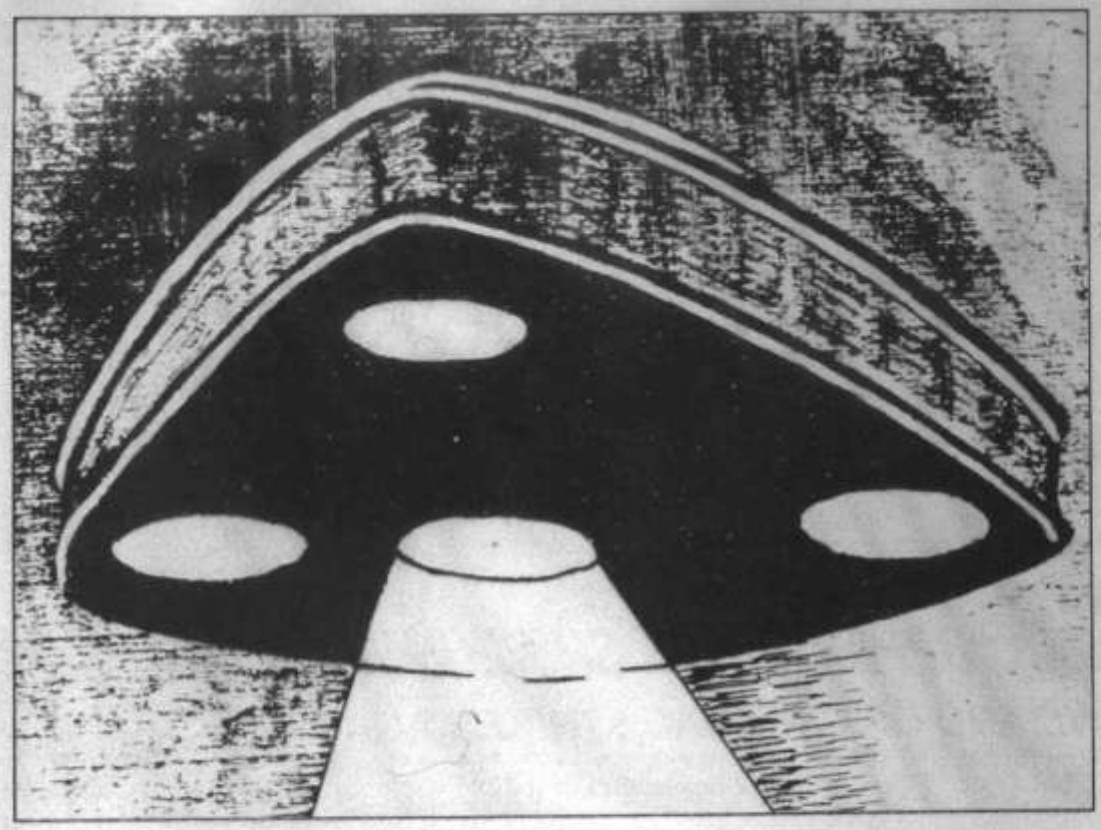

Rendering of Belgian 1991 triangular UFO (courtesy MUFON).

world on reconnaissance missions, a militaristic perception that was on vogue at the time due to our own Cold War and Mutual Assured Destruction preoccupations. The Brazilian, Dr. Olavo Fontes, was concerned about an alien "armed" occupation of northern Brazil, and the Argentinian Luis Anglada Font wrote his books from the crusty perspective of a former World War II fighter pilot.

On the evening of October 4, 1955 in an unspecified European location, a CIA agent travelling by train observed a triangular object "comparable in size to the [DELETED] jet fighter, with a squat shape and in the form of an equilateral triangle." The object was then ejected from its launching site, "making not less than three and no more than seven spirals in the air, after which it climbed extremely fast at a 45 degree angle.

With the benefit of twenty-odd years' hindsight, we know that their guesses were at best slightly off. All manner of UFO configurations have been reported, from the conventional disc and cigar shapes to more daring geometries, including tops, teardrops and molecular structures. But the case histories of the phenomenon over the past few years have featured an inordinate number of triangular UFOs, ranging from enormous flying pyramids to solid billiard-rack shapes and sleek boomerangs. "Flying saucers" appear to have become a thing of the past.

One of the earliest recorded triangular UFO sightings took place over Puerto Rico on April 30, 1969. The object was flying over the vicinity of Salinas, on the island's southern coast, at an estimated altitude of 70 to 80,000 feet. The National Air Guard dispatched a T-33, piloted by Col. Fred Brown, which climbed to 60,000 feet before breaking off pursuit. Col. Brown's gun camera film captured the odd arrowhead-shaped object, which appeared oblivious to his efforts. Corroboration for the sighting was made by the air traffic controllers of the Ponce and San Juan airports. Air Force intelligence agents impounded the film and ordered Col. Brown to remain silent about the whole affair. Estimates made from the stills taken from the gun camera film show that the triangular UFO was almost a mile and a half in length.

There is a precedent to this Puerto Rican sighting—an even earlier case involving triangular UFOs, as disclosed by a CIA report on the evening of October 4, 1955, in an unspecified European location, a CIA agent travelling by train observed a triangular object "comparable in size to the [DELETED] jet fighter, with a squat shape and in the form of an equilateral triangle." The object was then ejected from its launching site, "making not less than three and no more than seven spirals in the air, after which it climbed extremely fast at a 45 degree angle."

The agent also remarked that, at one point during his sighting, which was shared by an unspecified number of fellow passengers, the steward came into his compartment and drew the blinds, pointing toward the rear of the car and shaking his head.

The triangular UFOs remained few and far between during the 1970s, before emerging in full force with the "Westchester Wing's" appearance in the night skies over the Hudson Valley, kicking off five years of sightings with the display of a massive boomerang shape over New York State's Taconic Parkway on march 24, 1983. The story received the attention of New York City's major newspapers. Witnesses described strong feelings of psychic interaction with the vehicle, which could

sometimes only be seen as a V-shaped string of lights. Naysayers dismissed the craft as any one of several "Stealth" fighter prototypes being tested by the military or as the nocturnal meanderings of private pilots flying ultralight aircraft out of the Stormville Airport in Dutchess County, New York.

Close witnesses could attest to the contrary. In the summer of 1984, one man was pursued by a boomerang that resembled, in his opinion, "the star destroyer from *Star Wars*." A father and daughter were also chased on Route 116 near Croton Falls, New York by another triangular vehicle. Author Philip Imbrogno, whose book *Night Siege* chronicled the sightings, has stated that there were a number of "missing time" and abduction cases associated with the Hudson Valley incidents, which gradually came to an end in the late '80s.

The triangles were demonstrating capabilities that have made them radically different from the discs, cigars and spheres hitherto seen: the "falling leaf"motion made famous by early UFOs seemed to be a thing of the past with these sleek, outright aggressive aeroforms. Witness reports consistently placed the object's size at anywhere between 300 and 600 feet, several times the size of many reported discs (excluding the so-called "motherships"). The triangles boasted greenish or bluish halos, but did not seem to change color or shape, as in older cases. Nor were there many reports of landings by the triangles, much less reports about "occupants." However, there was an overall feeling of solidness to them, leading many to believe that we were finally facing physical craft—whether from Epsilon Eridani or Edwards AFB remains to be determined.

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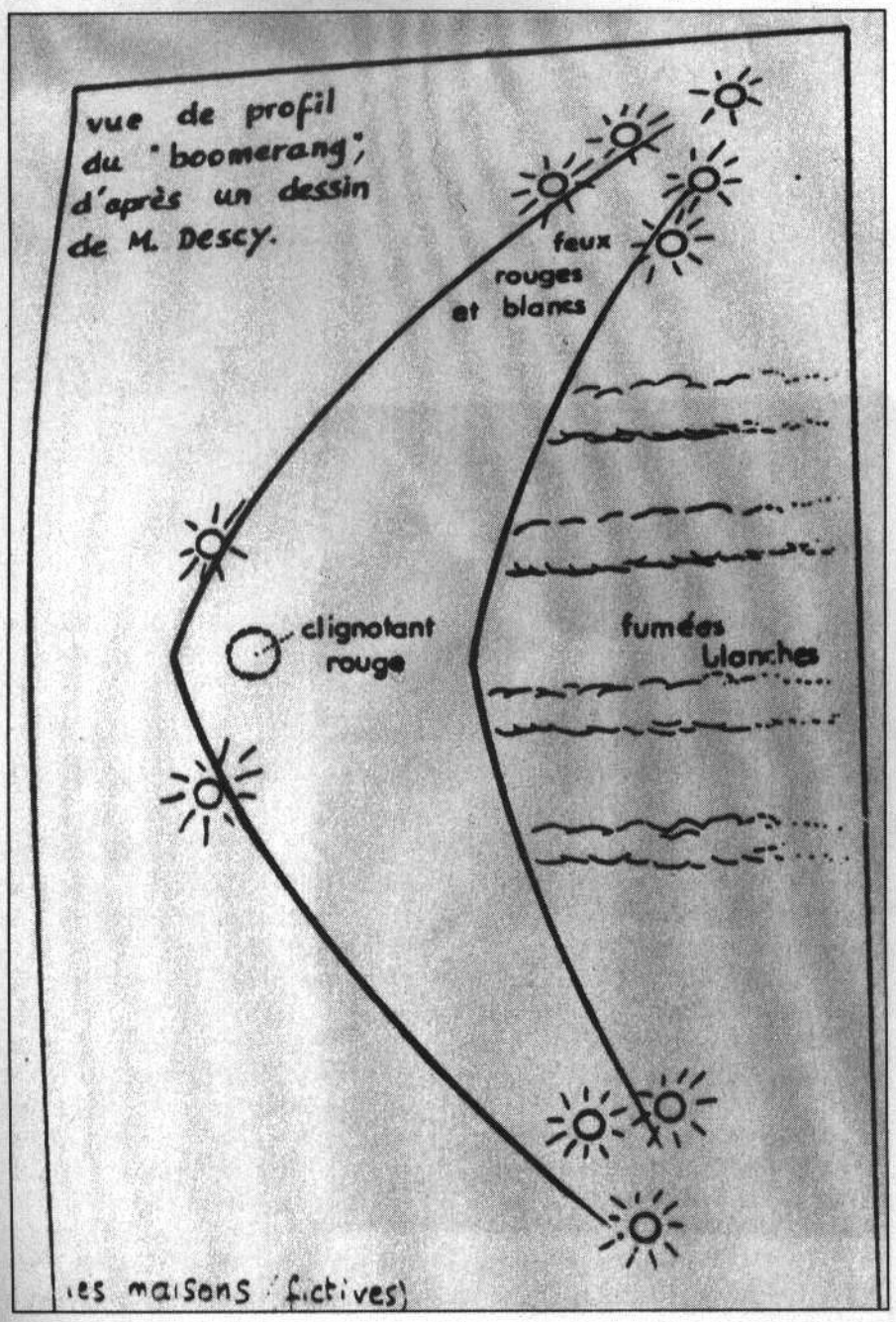
Cover of book by Spanish UFOlogist M. Carballal, who investigated triangular UFOs.

Wilson Sosa will never forget the UFO incident that suddenly thrust him into the heated debate of the UFO community. Toward late December, 1988, Sosa, his family and a sizeable number of his fellow residents in the Puerto Rican town of Cabo Rojo became speechless witnesses to one of the most controversial cases of modern UFOlogy: the capture or destruction of F-14 Tomcats by a colossal triangular UFO during an aerial skirmish with two such interceptors.

Drawn out of their homes by the sound of jet engines, the Sosas beheld a giant triangle over the nearby Sierra Bermeja, being pursued by the pair of Navy fighters, which appeared to be engaged in an attempt to change its direction or force it to land. The interceptors looked "insignificant" next to the mammoth craft. The mind-bending part of the story would soon occur: The F-14 bringing up the rear appeared to collide with the UFO, disappearing instantaneously. There was an abrupt end to the engine sound of the second fighter, which also vanished. The object flew around the tower of a nearby radio station, before splitting itself into three individual triangles and flying off in dif-

ferent directions. There was, however, a fascinating epilogue to the sighting: Sosa was visited by individuals who claimed to be from the U.S. Air Force who assured him that what he and the other 115 witnesses had seen was "real." UFOlogist Jorge Martin has investigated this case and others which involve triangular UFOs in Puerto Rico.

The sightings in 1989 over the Belgian town of Eupen triggered the interest of civilian and military groups worldwide. As in the Hudson Valley a few years earlier, giant triangles with powerful searchlights cruised through the night sky, creating a sensation in the normally quiet Benelux countries and consternation among the Belgian Air Force, which demanded to know if the U.S. was conducting tests with secret aircraft. By early 1990, over a thousand cases witnessed by 2500 individuals had been logged by SOBEPS, the Belgian civilian UFO center, whose assistance was requested by that nation's military. One notable case involved a pair of F-16 fighters, scrambled to intercept one of the triangles—the pilots were unable to see anything at all, while ground based personnel could see eight objects.

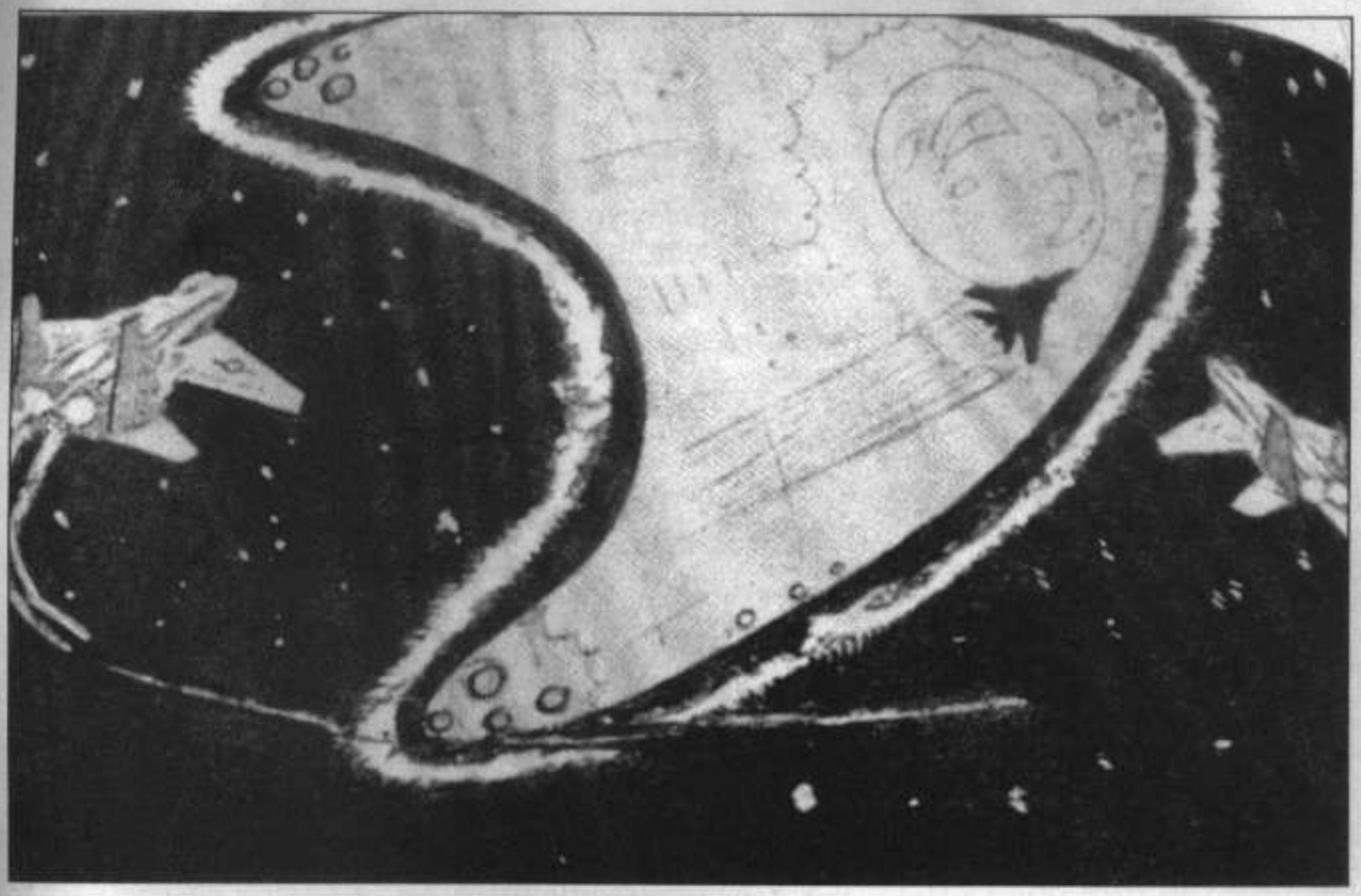


"Boomerang" sketch, France, 1990.

In October 1993, a family campers near Susquehannock State Forest reported seeing an object gliding slowly over a nearby mountain to the east as they returned to their cabin after a day of outdoor activity. It was boomerang-shaped, resembling a lifting body without a fuselage, with numerous white lights ringing it. Through binoculars, the family was able to see other curious details: a small sphere of blue light appeared to trail from the triangular UFO.

Almost 500 witnesses all over France reported seeing a veritable invasion force of giant black triangles on November 5, 1990. In an article translated by author George Andrews from OVNIMAGAZINE, a publication of the Banque International de Données Ufologiques, it said that "...The flight path of this armada of over 70 ships (that is the minimal figure) was at an altitude of 1000 meters (some 320 feet), sometimes over the horizon, flying a horizontal course after rapidly descending from the skies, following parallel trajectories, distant from each other by five to 25 kilometers...Considering the facts of the matter all together implies that a non-human intelligence and technology were responsible for the phenomena."

The French space agency, CNES, based in Toulouse, ascribed the sightings to the disintegration of the Soviet Gorizont booster in the upper atmosphere, using a telex received from NASA to substantiate their claim, in spite of the serious discrepancies between the booster reentry times and those of the sightings. The sightings recorded by OVNI-MAGAZINE appeared to indicate craft of the same nature as those seen in Belgium and the U.S.: spotlights on the underside of the vehicle's hull, strobes which swept the ground, simultaneous activation and de-



F-14 Tomcats intercepting the giant triangular UFOs seen over southern Puerto Rico. (Drawing by Jorge Martin).

activation of the spotlights were among the common characteristics. It is interesting to note that when UFOs were reported above the Pyrenees on March 31 1993, the CNES, once again, sought to dismiss the sightings as the reentry of another Russian space booster that had lifted the "Cosmos" 2238 satellite into orbit the previous evening.

The triangles were busy over Spain as well. UFOlogist Manuel Carballal documented a case that took place on Nov. 5, 1990 (the same day as the French cases) in which a huge craft was seen over different points of Galicia, the northwestern region of the Iberian Peninsula, Oleiros (La Coruna), Verin (Ourense) and a number of other communities. "This goes to prove," Carballal declared, "that we are dealing with real objects rather than individual hallucinations." In July of that year, another triangle had also been reported over the harbor of Oleiros.

But, Spain also boasts some earlier sightings of triangular craft. In October 1983, Carlos Alberto Docampo and his friend Fernando witnessed an immense sphere (estimated at over 300 feet in diameter) disgorge a formation of seven orange-colored triangular craft with rounded edges. While the atypical shape of the craft raised suspicions among researchers that the sighting could have been concocted by the witnesses, the subsequent appearance of more triangular craft vindicated them: In 1984, a family living in downtown La Coruna reported seeing a triangular craft hovering over the city; in September 1987, two friends reported another lone triangle, and on May 1, 1987, a family in the fishing village of Vistabos on the Galician coast looked on in awe as a colossal "merry-go-round of colors" took place above a nearby hill. A smaller, triangular craft broke off from this polychromatic melange, speeding toward the coast. Shortly before midnight, the triangle had soared over Vistabos and over the nearby town of Esteiro, where it was seen by most of the population, causing a commotion.

These Spanish cases have differentiated themselves from the other European cases of the late 1980's in one significant aspect: In 1986, Fernando Martinez, 22, was abducted by a triangular vehicle which swooped down toward him, as he made fruitless attempts to start the motorcycle he was riding. The triangle hovered six feet above his head, while two small "Greys" took him aboard. The next thing he knew, he was lying on the roadside next to his motorcycle. Upon returning home, he realized that two hours of his life were "missing."

By now, triangular craft reports comprised a fair share of the total number of cases, and the phenomenon had returned across the Atlantic to the U.S., with a fair share of sightings taking place in Pennsylvania. Boomerang-shaped UFOs were seen repeatedly in the vicinity of Williamsport, PA and its outlying areas. Again, the sightings appeared to follow the parameters established for these craft, with the distinction that "a loud or heavy rumbling noise…compared…to the rumble of a snow plow plowing the street, or to the noise of a loud diesel engine truck" would accompany the approach of the

object. The Williamsport boomerangs were approximately 100 to 600 feet from port to starboard, with lights varying from running lights to a pulsing beam.

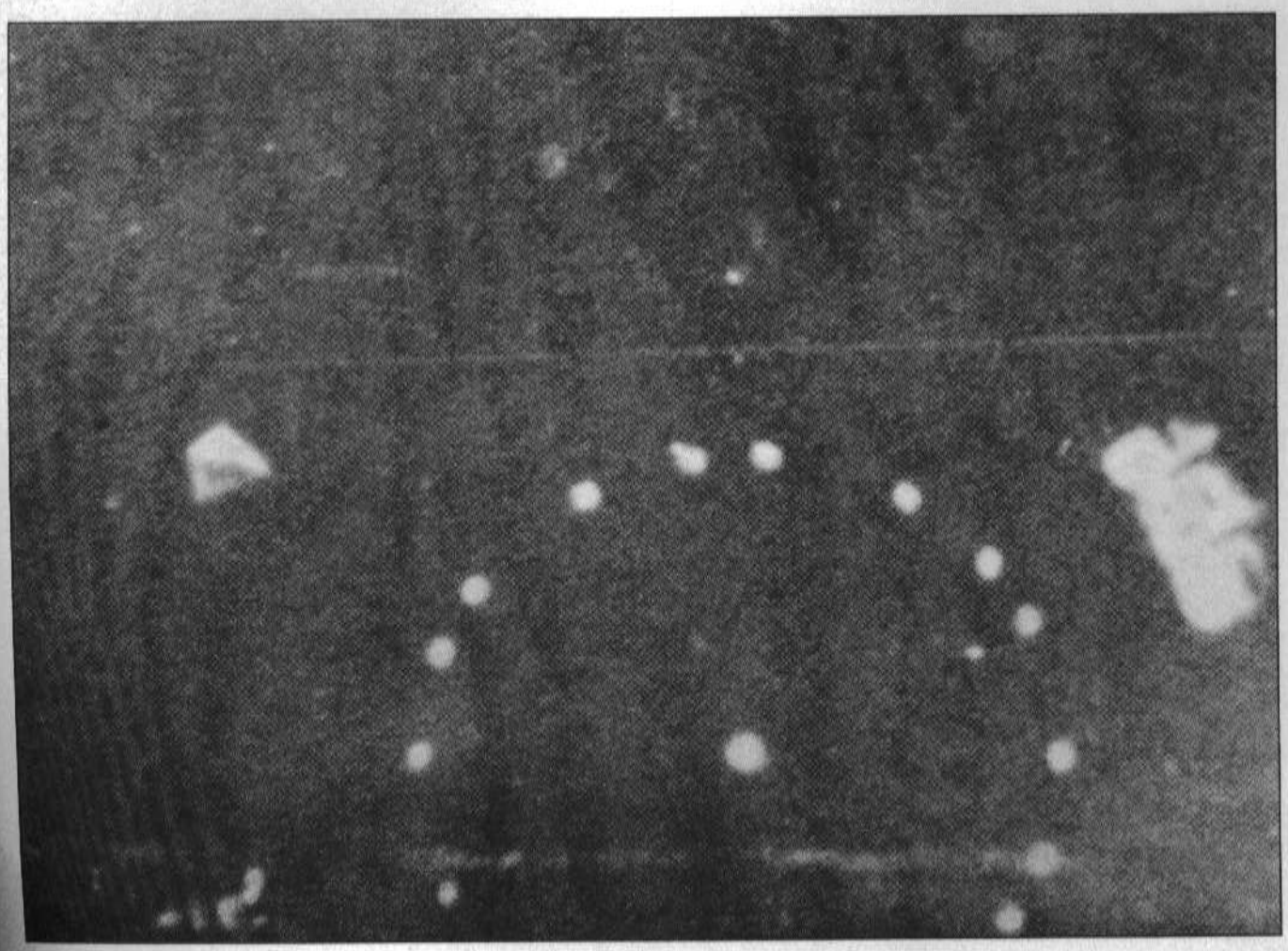
In October 1993, a family of campers near Susquehannock State Forest reported seeing an object gliding slowly over a nearby mountain to the east, as they returned to their cabin after a day of outdoor activity. It was boomerang-shaped, resembling a lifting body without a fuselage, with numerous white lights ringing it. Through binoculars, the family was able to see other curious details. A small sphere of blue light appeared to trail from the triangular UFO. They also received the impression that the boomerang was tethered to an even larger flying wing, reminiscent of some sort of midair refueling operation. However, no sound at all issued from the mysterious object.

The triangles would soon choose to make the skies over Westmoreland County their own. Researcher Stan Gordon investigated a November, 1993 case in Greensburg, PA, where a woman had let her dog out for the night, and was alarmed to discover her pet a short while later "seemingly frozen into position," focusing at something above them on the front yard. The woman was startled to see a sizeable object above a nearby telephone pole, and thought it was a plane about to collide on her property. A second glance revealed a smooth grey triangle with five rotating lights and a dark red light at the center of its lower fuselage.

The following night, three hunters spotting deer in Armbrust, PA were surprised and frightened when their spotlight fell upon a remote object they at first took to be a tractor. As if triggered by the light, the object began to rise. The hunters realized that it was no piece of machinery, but a boomerang-shaped object with lights at either end and a red light on the bottom. No sound whatsoever issued from the odd vehicle. In early December 1993, the passengers of a car heading south near Waynesburg, PA saw a bright white boomerang moving across the heavens.

Like their disc-shaped predecessors, triangular UFOs are not restricted by time of day, geography or any other considerations. They have shown themselves capable of flying low over rather densely populated areas (Spain, France) without attracting the attention of ground-based radar systems. They have shown an extra "sense," a psychic component which has caused many witnesses to feel that the objects are sentient themselves. In a number of cases, physical effects ranging from headaches to short-lived, flu-like symptoms have been observed.

Solid craft? Immaterial aeroforms capable of assuming any shape? Take your pick—the jury is still out.



Gun camera photo of the triangular UFO seen over Puerto Rico in the 1960s. The object was a mile and a half long! (Photo courtesy: J. Martin)

There is ample evidence that UFOs have caused dozens of power outages!

Boom, Boom, Out Go the Lights

by Timothy Green Beckley

One of the potentially important stories of 1996 received little coverage in the eastern United States, although the event in question actively affected the lives of millions of Americans residing in the western states. For NOT JUST ONCE but TWICE during the summer months the lights flickered, faded, and then went completely out all along the west coast and no one seemed to have a logical explanation for what actually occurred.

On July 2, hundreds of thousands of homes were plunged into total darkness in Arizona California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Wyoming. The blackout started early in the day and while some power was restored within a short while, other areas were not able to return back on line for up to 48 hours. No one with any of the utility companies seem to be able to come up with a concrete explanation as to what might have been responsible for the widespread outage, and, in fact, the various representatives of the many power companies affected all seemed to pin point different sources as the cause of the trouble. One witty spokesperson suggested it might have been a squirrel walking across a high tension line that triggered the blackout.

Only the widely read *USA Today* paper seemed to realize the significance of the power failure and featured it as one of the major headlines on their Fourth of July edition. MYSTERY BLACKOUTS HIT WEST told the tale really well, and the story included several tidbits which showed how personal such a widespread blackout can be:

- "In California, traffic lights went dark, causing huge freeway backups. Hundreds of people were stranded on rides at the San Diego fair. Service was disrupted in San Francisco's BART subway transit system.
- "Reno, Nevada has so many lights out that police ran out of temporary stop signs.
- "In Boise, state workers were sent home and sidewalk cafes filled up. One advertised, 'Take a blackout break.'"

One of the real unusual things about this supposedly "ordinary" blackout

Within the recent past, UFOs have continued to show what far reaching abilities they possess, including the ability to cause massive power blackouts.

was the fact that it caused numerous telephone systems to collapse. What is strange about this is the fact that, while phones do utilize a small amount of electricity to operate, they have their own independent systems and are hardly ever affected by power outages.

So what leaves the impression that UFOs might somehow be involved in this caper? Ironically, the power failure transpired only hours before the release of the blockbuster movie, *Independence Day,* in which one of the actors is heard to say that he plans to "kick ETs butt."

Many times in the past, the UFO beings have proven quite adequately that they can cause all kinds of havoc to Earthlings without having to invade us. They have cut off electricity in the past —either by "accident" or on purpose— and could have most easily accomplished this bit of "hardship" to show us what they really are capable of doing were they really hostile and out to cause our civilization harm.

Power Draining UFOs

In the early days of UFO research, when researchers found it advantageous to keep records of individual cases, there were dozens of reports of power draining UFOs to follow up on. The late Jack Robinson made up this short list as a result of years of extensive research on the subject.

July 6, 1947—Acampo, California: All the lights in the town went out while a roaring noise and a strange glow were reported in the sky.

January 27, 1957—Glendora, California: The town had a power failure when two UFOs were reported in the sky.

June 25, 1957—Baltimore. Maryland: The street lights failed while UFOs were reported overhead.

November 4, 1957—San Vicente, Brazil: The entire electrical system of Itaipu Fort, located in the bay of Sao Vicente, failed while a UFO hovered overhead. This included not only the regular system but the emergency auxiliary system also.

November 5th, 1957—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: A disc in the sky caused the electric power to fail.

November 14, 1957—Tamaroa, Illinois: A bright circular object in the sky caused the electric power to fail over a four-mile area for the ten minutes it was seen.

November 25, 1957—Mogi Mirem, Brazil: The city lights failed at 10:00 p.m. when three saucers passed over the town.

August 3, 1958—Rome, Italy: A luminous UFO caused the lights in Rome to go out.

June 22, 1959—Salta, Argentina: A brilliant sphere caused the lights to blink out for a brief period.

August 17, 1959—Uberlandia Minais, Brazil: A round UFO caused the automatic keys of a power station to flip off because of an evident power drain.

In their list of power-draining UFOs the Robinsons round UFO caused the automatic keys of a power station to flip off because of an evident power drain.

In their list of power-draining UFOs the Robinsons also tell about a fantastic story that appeared in the November 27, 1965, edition of the St. Paul, Minnesota, *Pioneer Press.* The article tells of a multiple power failure in the area the previous night.

According to the news item in the *Pioneer Press,* "all the ingredients of a science fiction thriller were present—flashing lights in the sky, more flashing lights on the ground, and mysterious interruptions of power."

The first report came in shortly after 8:00 PM from Nick DeVara, who was crossing the intersection of Maryland and Supornick with a friend when they saw a light "like someone welding in the sky." As it passed overhead, the lights in a nearby gasoline station went out momentarily. At the residence of Don Roush, in another part of town, all lights and electrical appliances went dead suddenly at 8:15 PM. Shortly afterwards, their son came home and said he had seen a strange blue light in the sky at about the same time.

Then, shortly after 9:00 PM, Michael Rodriquez was driving eastward on Warner Road near Highway 61, in St. Paul, when he saw a blue light apparently on the ground. As the light appeared, the drivers of the two cars behind Rodriquez's car got out to look at the flash. At about the same time, a man named Russell Hoff, who was turning off Highway 61 onto Bailey Road, saw flashes in the sky that were "like looking at daylight through a blue windshield." He saw four such flashes, about 20 to 30 seconds apart. Later, he noticed that the power seemed to be off in the entire area. This power failure was confirmed by several phone calls to police from people living in the Totam Town area, along Highway 61. These callers also said they had seen lights in the sky of various colors. A weather bureau spokesman was unable to account for the phenomena, but definitely ruled out lightning.

Some weeks before the east coast

blackout, on September 25, at Cuernavaca, Mexico, a tropical resort town, came a report that it suffered three consecutive power blackouts in the space of one hour. Electrical company officials were unable to account for the phenomena. UFOs were reported over the area at the time. Residents, police, airport officials, control tower operators at the International Airport were among the observers. Traffic in downtown Mexico City practically came to a standstill, as the result of the approaching UFO that created a "mild earthquake" as it flew over the area. The UFO was reported to be about thirty feet off the ground and around 24 feet in diameter, ringed with glowing lights slung below it. Colors seen were yellow, red, white and blue. (Report courtesy of George D. Fawcett)

Power Lines Used for Recharging?

The evidence accumulated over the years, seems to indicate that the reason flying saucers are so often seen around high tension lines is that they are in some way recharging, using the energy to power their ships. In fact, several confidential sources have told us that at the time of these various power blackouts, there is usually a large, unexplainable, drainage on the power lines.

John Fuller, in his excellent book, *Incident at Exeter*, tells of a witness who claims that he actually saw a large cigar-shaped object floating high in the sky above Exeter, New Hampshire on September 3, 1965. Suddenly, a door opened on the bottom of the "mother-ship," a smaller craft emerged, flew down and began hovering over a nearby high tension line. "Then a silvery pipe-like object came down from the base of the disc and actually touched the lines, remaining there for a minute or so. The protrusion then slowly retracted into the body of the object, and it took off at considerable speed...then rejoined the reddish cigar-shaped object and disappeared inside it."

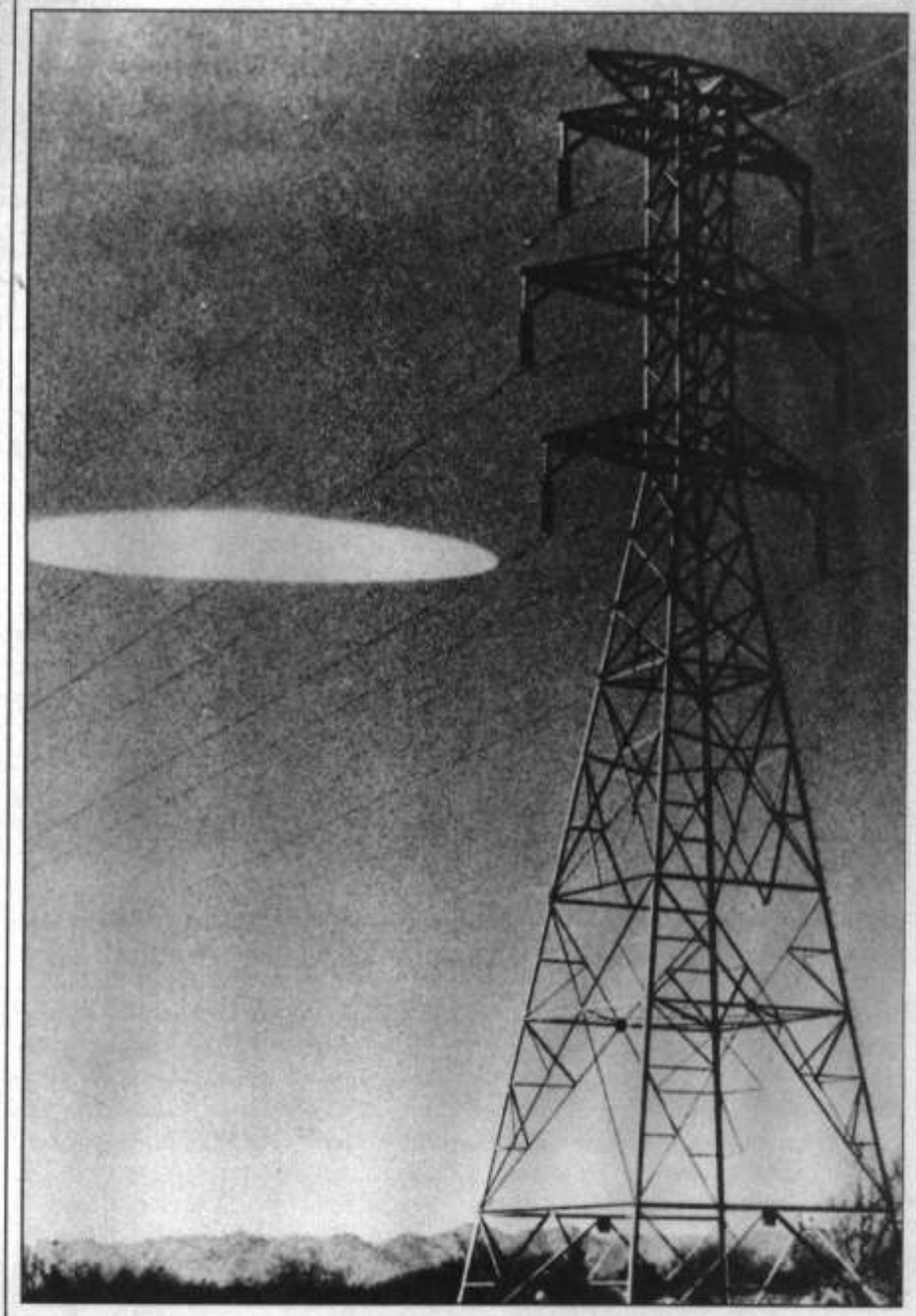
Photographic evidence exists of such an operation. On May 8, 1966, Bryan Pollock of New Plymouth, New Zealand, woke up to find a strange light coming into his second-floor bedroom window. Putting on his robe, and noticing that the clock read 5:50, he proceeded to open the window slightly to see what was causing this glow. Pollock was rather surprised to see three brilliantly lit objects hovering over a high-tension line near his home. The young boy ran for his camera, an Asahi-Pentax Spotmatic, and set it up in front of his window.

He clicked the shutter for the first time and then without any warning, or sound, the objects appeared to change shape in front of his eyes. From their hexagonal outline they turned to an enlarged oval shape, causing the closely positioned crafts to extend over each other.

His third photo caught the objects in the act of returning to their previous appearance.

In Woonsocket, Rhode Island, on July 24, two young men were out hiking in a clearing next to some high power lines when suddenly, they saw two small objects approaching from the opposite direction.

The witnesses, radio commentator Joseph Ferriere of station WNRI and Harold A. Trudel, state that the objects



On numerous occasions both in the U.S. and overseas, UFOs have been seen—and even photographed—hovering suspiciously near, or directly above, high tension power lines.

were the size of a quarter held at arm's length and in shape were identical to the lens from a magnifying glass.

They took two snapshots of the "power draining" invaders with their box camera. To this date the two are not certain what they saw. Both Trudel and Ferriere claim to have seen and photographed larger ships in the same vicinity.

In a lengthy interview with Trudel, I learned that he has made over forty sightings and has photographed UFOs on at least half a dozen occasions. He attributes his "good luck" to telepathic hunches which he believes come from the visitors he has been able to photograph.

At 5:10 on the evening of July 11, 1967, Trudel was cruising in his car along the Wrentham-Diamond Hill area of Woonsocket, when he saw a domed, saucer-shaped object hovering over the power lines. At 5:35, just 20 minutes later, 20,000 residents in Woonsocket and surrounding communities experienced a complete power failure!

The next morning the Woonsocket Call carried the following headline: AREA BLACKOUT A MYSTERY. It revealed that an intensive investigation was made into the widespread blackout by the Blackstone Valley Electric Company, but no cause could be found. The newspaper also disclosed that several residents had seen a "white fireball" just before the power cut off.

Several days later, Trudel was walking in the same vicinity late at night when a man approached him from out of the woods. The "mystery man" asked Trudel what he was doing there, and he explained that he was trying to see some more flying saucers. With this the man simply smiled, turned his black and began walking away. For some reason, Harold Trudel felt an urge to follow him and did so for about half a mile. Then the man, who in no way identified himself, pointed toward a clump of trees and said, "There is what you came for." Suddenly, from the appointed direction, a large UFO rose up from the ground and silently glided in Trudel's direction.

Trudel aimed his camera and took several photographs before the object disappeared. After he took the last of his shots, he began looking around for the "stranger" who had led him to this area. He could not be located, although there seemed no place to go.

Writing in his book, *Strange World*, the late Frank Edwards claims he was privileged to learn of a case which occurred on April 18, 1962, at Eureka, Utah near Stead Air Force Base. According to Edwards, the public information officer at the base admitted that a huge object of unknown identity had landed near an electric power station at Eureka, and that the power station was out of operation for more than an hour because of the "impact" of the UFO. News was withheld until the power station had been restored to service after the mystery object took off.

Nollis Air Force Base, Nevada admitted that the object had been tracked on radar from as far east as Oneida, New York and chased by armed jets from the Phoenix, Arizona Air Defense Command.

In my own newspaper clipping files, I found that the *Salt Lake Tribune* for April 19, carried the account and stated that eyewitnesses described the object as a big blue flash which gave off a very loud rumble. Eureka Police Chief, Joseph Bernini, said that all available data showed that the object had landed in the nearby mountains.

Other residents claim the UFO shook their homes and is thought to have been responsible for a number of shattered windows in the downtown section.

Congress Told of Situation

At a hearing before the Committee on Science and Astronautics, Dr. James McDonald was asked by Indiana Congressman J. Edward Roush, whether he had found any cases where contemporaneously with the sighting of UFOs, there were any other events which took place which might be related to these objects? McDonald's answer was most emphatic: "Yes. Certainly there are many physical effects. For instance ...(many UFO witnesses) have found the fillings in their mouth hurting while...(an) object was nearby, but there are many cases on record of car ignition failure. One famous case was at Levelland, Texas, in 1957. Ten vehicles were stopped within a short area, all independently, in a two-hour period near Levelland. There was no lightning or thunder storm and only a trace of rain. There is another (tie in) which I don't know whether to bring to the committee's attention or not. The evidence is not as conclusive as the car-stopping phenomenon, but there are too many instances for me to ignore. UFOs have often been seen hovering near power facilities. There are a small number but still too many to seem pure fortuitous chance, of system outages, coincident with the UFO sighting. One of the cases was Tamaroa, Illinois. Another was a case in Shelbyville, Kentucky. Even the famous one, the New York blackout, involved UFO sightings....I understand a woman in Sea Cliff, New York (who) saw a disc hovering and going up and down...then shooting away just after the power failure."

McDonald thought the situation so important that he approached the Federal Power Commission for data, "they had many reports for that famous evening." The Arizona physicist continued by stating that he had received reports from all over New England in the midst of the blackout, as well as at least a dozen sighting reports from the Syracuse area alone.

McDonald pointed out that blackouts in relation to UFO appearances, "extends down to the limit of single houses losing their power when a UFO is near. The hypothesis in the case of car stopping, is that there might be high magnetic fields, which saturate the core and thus prevent the pulses going through the system to the other side. Just how a UFO could trigger an outage on a large power network is not yet clear. But this is a disturbing series of coincidences that I think warrant much more attention than they have so far received."

Congressman William Ryan of New York, then quizzed the scientist on whether or not any government agency had investigated the New York blackout and its relation to UFOs. McDonald replied that as far as he knew no one in authority had seriously looked into the matter. McDonald concluded his statements by offering his personal feelings that it would be "extremely desirable" for the Federal Power Commission, or Federal Communications Commission to investigate the relationship between these sightings and the blackouts in question.

EXCLUSIVE

Ex-Girlfriend Of Famed Beatle Reveals Shocking Details Of..

JOHN LENNON'S CLOSE ENCOUNTER

by Harold Salkin

May Pang worked as John Lennon's assistant for two-and-a-half years before she moved in with the famed musician. An American-born young lady of Chinese ancestry, she lived with Lennon for a year and a half before the Beatle returned to his wife, Yoko Ono.

Today, May recalls with great fondness the happy times she spent with one of the most talented and influential artists of our modern era. May, as it turns out, is also quite artistic and talented herself. She is an actress with credits in both motion pictures and television, having appeared in the movie "Heartburn" and in the popular "Equalizer" TV series, as well as on such soaps as "Another World." You might even have seen her in the Reebok or Gitano Jeans commercials. In addition, several years ago Warner Publishing came out with her book on John Lennon, which quickly sold out, but is in the process of being re-issued by another publisher.

And while their experience happened more than 13 years ago, May still remembers the night she and Lennon had a close encounter with an eerie craft that hovered not far from where they were standing.

"Our sighting took place on August 23, 1974, at about 9 P.M. It was a Friday evening, as I recall, and I was living with John in a penthouse apartment at 434 East 52nd Street in New York City. The penthouse was on the 17th floor, the top of the 'tower,' as they called it.

"I had just ordered a pizza to be sent up. It was a very warm night, and John had gone out on the terrace. He loved the feel of the summer air coming in off the East River. We were just one building away from the river. As it happened, he was nude; he often walked on the terrace in the nude, because there were no windows facing us in other apartments on our level. Also, it was very dark out there.

"It was a really beautiful, clear night. He had just had a nap and went out to have a cigarette. I was dressing."

Suddenly John shouted: "May! Come here!!"

"I'll be out in a second," she replied.

"No, *now!*" he yelled even louder.

"As I walked onto the terrace, I said, 'What do you want?' Then my eyes caught this large, circular object floating toward us in the sky. I gulped and said, 'What's *that?* Is it a helicopter, a blimp, or *what?*'

"We both stared in fascination at this strange vehicle. It was apparently shaped like a flattened cone, of some dark metallic material. At the point on top was a large, brilliant red light, not pulsating as on our aircraft. And we could see a circle of white lights running completely around the rim at the base of the object — these were flashing on and off. There were many, many white lights.

"The craft was coming along the course of the East River, moving from north to south. It flew over the building next to ours — the apartment house fronting on the river — and John estimated its size as 'about as large as a two-man Lear Jet.' I said that it was close enough so that if Reggie Jackson hit a home run, he would probably hit it, and later, John used that phrase in telling about it.

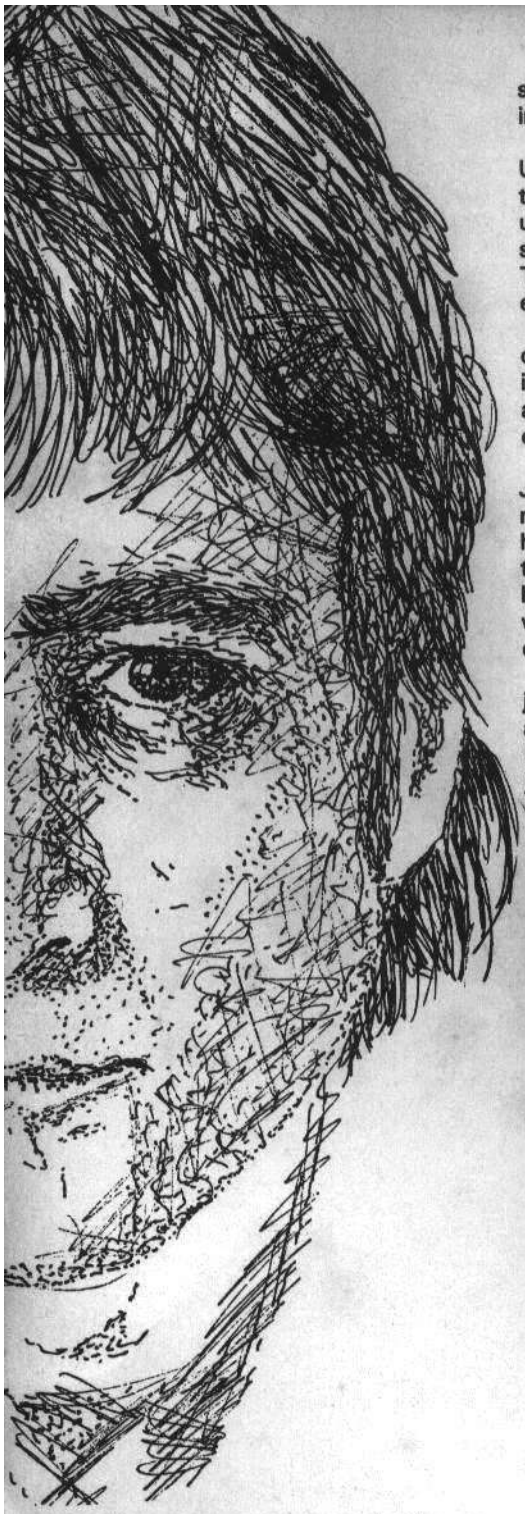
"I realized suddenly that I was even more excited than John was. I was even screaming at this totally unbelievable sight!"

Then the ship — or whatever it was — came directly *overhead*. "There was no noise — not a sound coming from it. We often had helicopters fly over us, and of course they were quite noisy. In fact, further down the river I could see a helicopter at that moment.

"When it went past our building, it turned slightly, moving southward, and curved in its course so that it flew very close to the 40-story U.N. Plaza Building on 44th St. and First Avenue. That is the building where many of the United Nations delegates live. It went beyond the tall structure, disappearing from our sight."

At that point May said, "I guess it's gone."

But no — it came out again, rose higher in the sky, and moved down along the



river to the West Side Towers building — a high-rise at 24th St. "As it hovered there for a few minutes, John focused his telescope on it. Besides the red light and the many white lights, no other details could be seen — no portholes or any other configurations.

"I took out my camera, which had special infra-red surveillance film, and snapped a few pictures. Unfortunately, after developing the film, the effect was as if the film had been over-exposed. It was strange.

"The object started to move across the river, in the direction of Brooklyn. I grabbed the phone and dialed some friends in Brooklyn.

"'You won't believe what we've just seen!' I cried out. 'Look up in the sky, just in case!' They looked, but couldn't see it."

While May was holding the phone, the UFO began picking up speed in the distance. "It gained altitude, going straight up, faster and faster, till — in a very few seconds — it disappeared from our sight. The total time it was in view, we estimated, was about 8 or 9 minutes."

May kept saying to John — over and over — "I can't believe it! I can't believe it! Of course, neither of us had ever had a sighting like this one, so we were both elated.

"As we began to calm down somewhat, John told me what had gone through his mind at the outset of the sighting. When he first spotted the flashing lights, he thought: 'It must be a neon sign!' But then he realized it couldn't be, because there were no lighted signs in the area. And of course, he soon saw it was moving."

As Lennon turned fully toward the object, it dawned on him that this was really a UFO — he immediately *knew* it was a UFO. "John was an avid reader of all subjects, including the esoteric. He was a firm believer that UFOs *did* exist — he had for years been eager to see one. In fact the subject completely fascinated him! John was much more of a believer than *I* was.

"He had been a regular reader of the magazine, *Flying Saucer Review,* as well as other UFO magazines which he picked up on the newsstands. I later kept a number of copies — in going through some things the other day, I came across them.

"In relating the event later on, it was important that I had been a witness to it, because everyone knew of my reputation as a non-drinker and one who did not take drugs; it made me a very solid witness."

After the sighting, a friend of theirs called the *Daily News.* "They were told that seven people had phoned in reports of sighting strange things in the sky, similar to our description. One was at 86th Street, north of us.

"We called the Police Department; two people had reported sightings in Manhattan."

What did they think it was that they saw!

"No one could tell me it's a secret weapon — either ours or the Russians' — I'm convinced of that! My reasoning is this: if the space people — or whoever is on board the craft — are so advanced that they can cross the vast expanses of space, they could certainly override any electronic equipment we have, such as radar. I feel that there *are* other life forms, elsewhere in the universe. Some people want concrete evidence — but I point out that they believe in such things as the planet Pluto — and where is the "concrete evidence" for that?

"John told me he would *like* to be taken up on a UFO. Probably he was thinking, as he watched the craft that night, 'Come down — I want to be taken up!' I'm sure he would have gone up with them if they had allowed it.

"I think they are as curious about us as we are about them. I believe they are far more advanced than we are. We are just learning how to navigate our tiny ships to Saturn or Neptune, but no humans are on board.

"People from all different countries around the world have seen UFOs. I *know* they exist out there."

Was John a student of the Bible or of philosophies of life, esoteric subjects, etc.?

John was into *all* philosophies — Eastern as well as Western. He taught me I Ching. He used it a lot, and found it amazing. He would ask it about decisions he had to make. He was in general an optimist as far as the future of the world was concerned."

On the sleeve of the album *Walls and Bridges,* he wrote; "I saw a UFO, on August 23, 1974, at 9:00 o'clock." He signed it, "J.L."

During the summer of 1986 — May saw another UFO. "I was driving with a friend in Manhattan — on 8th Avenue in the 40's. It was at night, and I saw something in the distance. As we got closer, I saw this thing hovering. We pulled over near the Tavern on the Green restaurant. Another car pulled alongside, and I asked the people in it what they thought it was. 'A blimp!' they said. 'An advertising blimp.' We all got out of our cars. I said, 'Do you really think that is a blimb — where are the signs?' They looked confused, jumped back in their car and sped away.

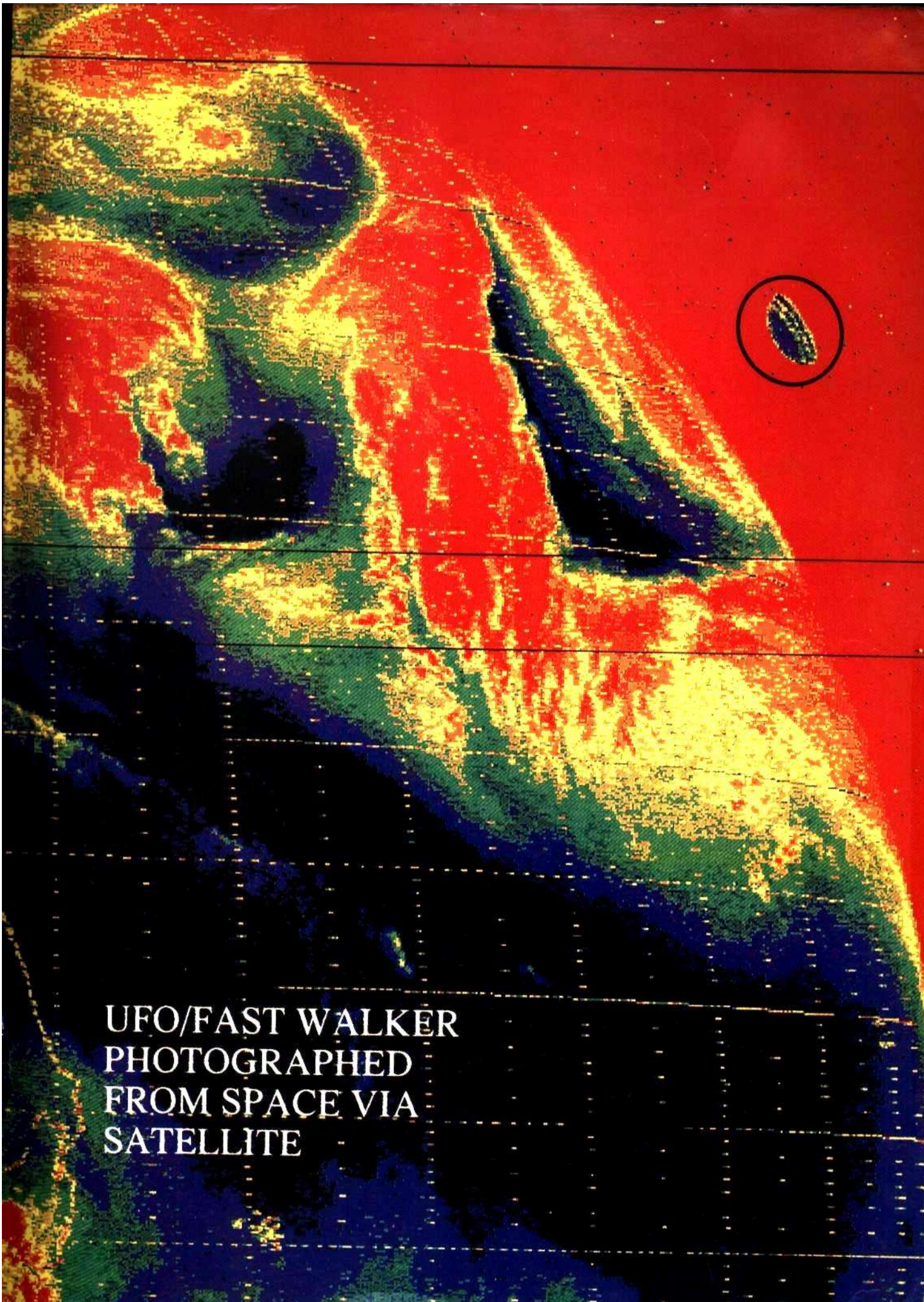
"Finally, after a few minutes, the UFO picked up speed, and flew straight up into the sky till it was gone. There was no sound whatsoever. My friend agreed with me — it was indeed a UFO. It was in the shape of a flat-iron, with many white lights outlining the shape. No solid structure was visible, however."

Nowadays, May says she is more conscious of UFOs than ever before. "Every so often, when I'm outdoors I look up into the sky. I *feel* there is something up there — and I'm not at all afraid of it. I'm more curious than anything else."

In recent months, May has begun to speak more freely about her experience. Last summer she even spoke at a UFO Conference as well as agreeing to appear along with UFO UNIVERSE editor Tim Beckley on NBC radio's Alan Colmes Show.

May feels certain that the government knows more about UFOs than they are willing to admit, and that if they ever got ahold of an alien being they would probably "try to give it the same kind of examination that those who claim to have been abducted say they have been given by the occupants of UFOs."

From her first-hand encounter with John Lennon, May Pang knows these objects do exist, and that "the time will soon come when the authorities must tell the public, 'There *are* such things!'" Like a lot of people, May agrees "the government has tried to suppress it long enough!" □



UFO/FAST WALKER PHOTOGRAPHED FROM SPACE VIA SATELLITE